

# FREE ZONE

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## MIRAGE: music for the masses

By Khaldoun Tabaza  
and Ahmad Humaid  
Special to The Star

**W**AEL ABU NUWAR, Jamal Al-Tajer and Khalid Bayyat, influenced by rock greats like Pink Floyd, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple and Jethro Thull were already playing together in a school band calling themselves "The Makeups" before they formed Mirage six years ago. "We were playing together since we were 13 years old, and we always wanted to form a band. It was our hobby and we did it because we enjoyed it." Since then the band's line up has changed frequently, with Wael and Jamal being the only original members today.

The lack of equipment was a major problem that faced the group, "at that time not all the instruments we needed were available in Jordan, and even those available were not easily obtained," Jamal says, remembering those early days, "we even had to borrow drum kits in our early school concerts".

Concerts have always been landmarks in the history of Mirage especially their debut. "We held our first concert as Mirage one year after the establishment of the group, at that time we had recorded eight songs and broadcast from Radio Jordan," Wael says. "It was a very brave move for us to hold a concert at the Palace of Culture because we didn't have the faintest idea about the number of people who will attend this concert. If any at all." To their great surprise they were received by an audience of more than two thousand people. "I think that was because we were the first Jordanian band to write their own original English songs and play them live in concert," Wael says.

The band tries to convey its own spirit in its work. "We want to write meaningful, deep lyrics as well as good music. Of course if the lyrics are very complicated and the music very progressive,

then the song will be restricted to intellectuals and won't reach the masses, so we try our best to avoid that while still keeping a certain standard... Take for example Teenager or Work (a song about the normal every day employee)" Jamal says, "these sound funny to listen to, but at the same time have a good theme. I think that our lyrics have always been somehow spontaneous. At that time we were young and just having fun, we had nothing to loose but now, there is much at stake as we're gaining fame and reputation, so we are becoming more self-conscious and rational..."



chance, no. We have to be a new technology available to the audience, the audience is not going to be interested in the old musical instruments. They are using a computer. But does computer music lack its 'spirit' of rock'n'roll?

"We, as a rock band use the computer in a special manner. We create sounds for people. We still use real guitars and the spirit is our music. The technology is merely a tool in the hand of a musician," says Jamal.

Song writing is a shared creative process between Wael and Jamal. "We don't argue about the basics of our song writing. We have so many things in common as far as music is concerned," Jamal says. "We either compose together or separately and the little differences between us enhance our music," Wael adds.

The core of Mirage has always been Jamal and Wael, but the numerous line-up changes especially regarding vocalists proves the description of an "open group" that Wael likes to give. "We are always open for new talents, but whoever wants to join has to satisfy our standards," Wael says. "We like to experiment with different styles and the change that occurred in Mirage always added colour and variety to our output," Jamal says.

Their recent production of Arabic songs was indeed a surprising and drastic change in colour and style, which proved to be one of the group's most successful moves. Their song "Tegool Ahwak" was a huge hit in Jordan and other Arab countries, giving Mirage its widest popularity and exposure to date. "When we started writing Arabic songs, our listeners thought that it was going to be a step backwards, but after they heard our Arabic stuff they liked it even more than our English songs... I think that we have explored new fields in Arabic music," Wael says. "The idea of writing Arabic songs existed two years before 'Tegool Ahwak' and we wrote, and scrapped, many songs," Jamal says. "What confused us was determination of the style, the beat, the arrangement and the instruments that would be used in a new Arabic music which can rival Western music in sophistication and quality. Then we did 'Tegool Ahwak'. We knew that we had the right formula, although we didn't expect the song to be as massive as it is now, but we had hopes for it." "Our Arabic songs are musically more advanced than our older English ones, because we had acquired more experience at the time," Wael emphasises. "The Arabic songs had

another field in which Wael was a pioneer is video-making. "We try to be unique in our videos. We want them to form a separable unit to convey the content of our songs in a symbolic way," Wael says. "We did this nobody has done before and we faced many problems which we, as musicians, are not supposed to deal with. When we did the video for 'Sarkha' we spent half a day in Whidat searching for someone to supply us with the various generators and other equipment we needed, and on the day of shooting the guy didn't show up and we spent hours searching for his house." Wael says explaining the difficulties they are sometimes faced with.

As to the group's new project Wael reveals that they have many songs that are currently being recorded, one of them about the Intifada which is still untitled, and another is a Jordanian folklore song called "We're also planning to do a video for the Intifada song. We have been offered to perform in Dubai and Doha. "We have also been approached by two Egyptian record companies with offers to release a complete cassette which we are considering."

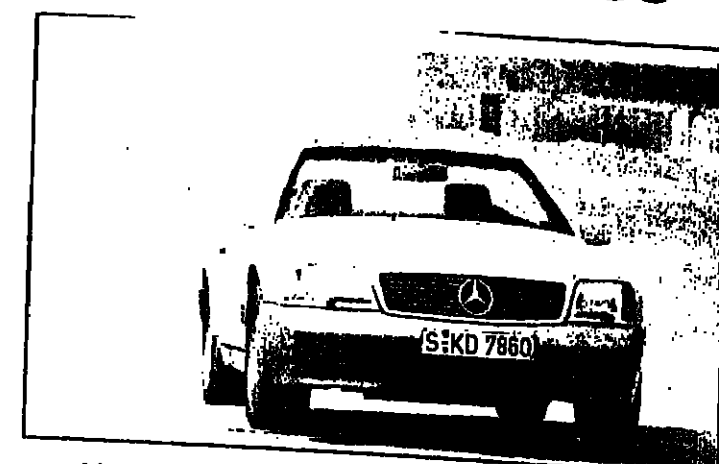
"Fame is nice," both Wael and Jamal agree. "People who are in the street really care about us because we are a Jordanian band and they are Jordanians," Wael says proudly. Jamal adds that "One of the things I like to hear from people is that we have proved that rock music is not just that nobody should be interested in."

## The all-new Mercedes SL, sports-car exclusiveness

**S**INCE SPORTS-cars in the price range of DM190-150 thousand form less than 1 per cent of the total car market, manufacturers have to invest in frequent re-designs. This makes engineers do their best to incorporate every possible technological advance, so that the new design will have the longest possible lifespan. This explains the fact that the last Mercedes SL series was launched back in 1970.

But the new generation of four valves per cylinder engines were introduced in the new SL. The three litre in-line six cylinder engine produces 231 hp in the 300 SL model, while the five litre V8 in the 500 SL model cranks 326 hp zipping the 1770 kg SL from 0 to 100 km/h in just 6.2 seconds and to a top speed of 250 km/h. If all this is not enough then wait for the 400 hp 12 cylinder 600 SL model to be introduced in spring 1991.

Well, sporty performance is not everything. Mercedes fits all SL models with ABS (anti-lock brake system) as a standard and a five-link independent rear suspension that provides long wheel travel, good isolation from road harshness effectively giving the car a form of passive rear-wheel steering for better handling and tight manoeuvres. SL's safety system is effective and user friendly with a pair of airbags and seat belts that easily pull out of their carrier and adjust in lockstep with the head



rest. Mercedes designers toiled for more than a decade to produce a seat that provides comfort befitting the SL luxury status, but not at the expense of crash protection. Using computerised finite element that

divided the structure into 26,000 individual segments, engineers compiled a map of the stresses the frame would encounter from drive-to-the-corner-store to the worst-case-scenario crash. The frame is remarkably simple yet able to withstand an impact force of five tonnes, twice the impact required by the toughest safety standards.

Behind the bucket seats there is a hinged roll-over hoop made of steel tubing covered with polyurethane foam that can be raised and lowered by pressing a button.

In the driving actuated mode a hydraulic motor swings the bar through its full arc in about 4 seconds. Of course, a few drivers will have a foresight to raise the bar before they roll their SL, so, Mercedes provide an automatic deployment mode that snaps the bar up in only 0.3 second if suspension-travel and/or acceleration sensors tell the control computer that a crash is imminent.

The all-new SL Mercedes has pushed the two-seat sports car to its limits and created a highly refined speedster. One may argue that a Mazda MX-5 after all could provide much of the same wind-in-hair feeling at less than one third of the price of SL's base model (90,000 DM or about JD 36,000 without duty of course) but what we are dealing with here is exclusiveness and that's another story.

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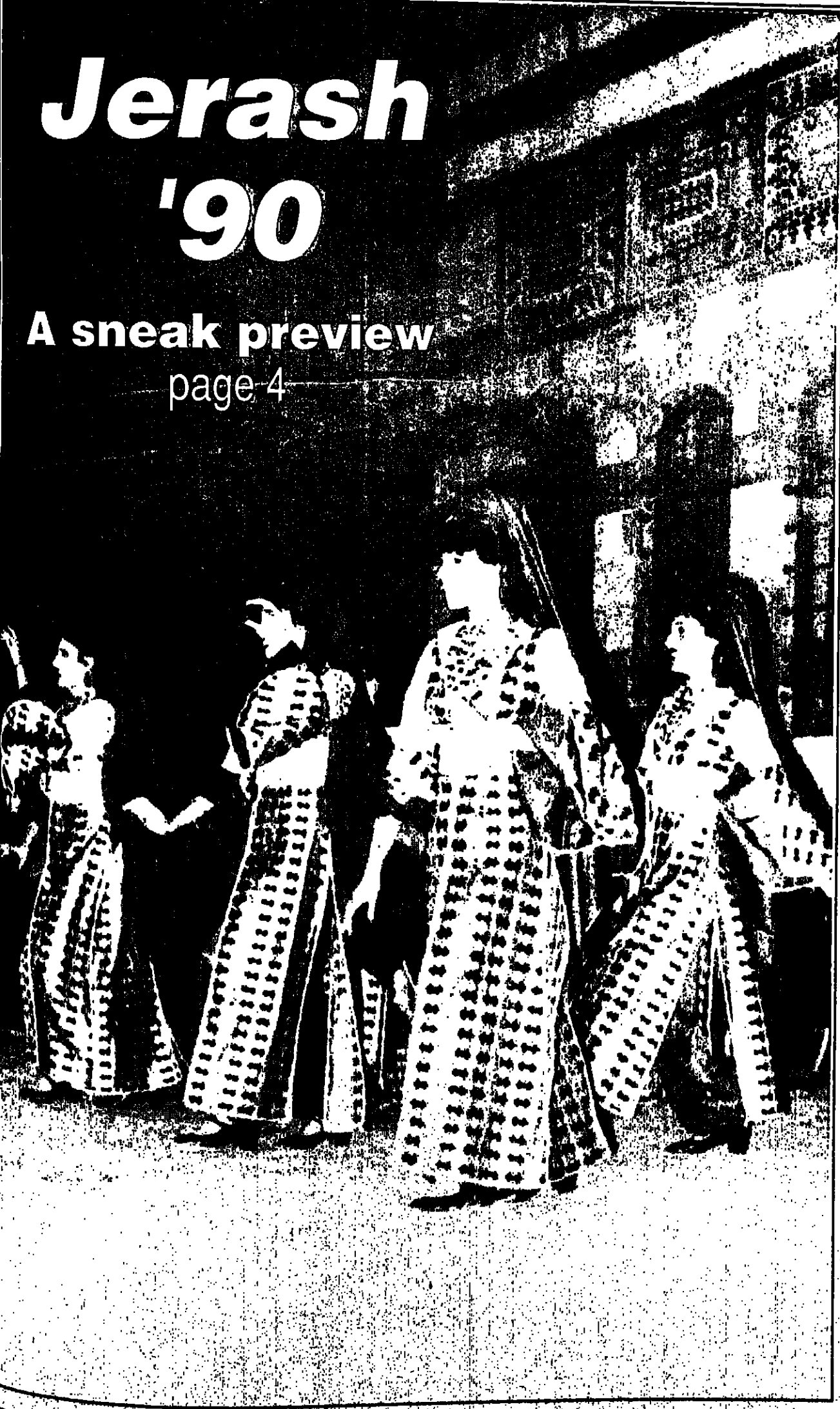


Digital prejudice  
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# The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

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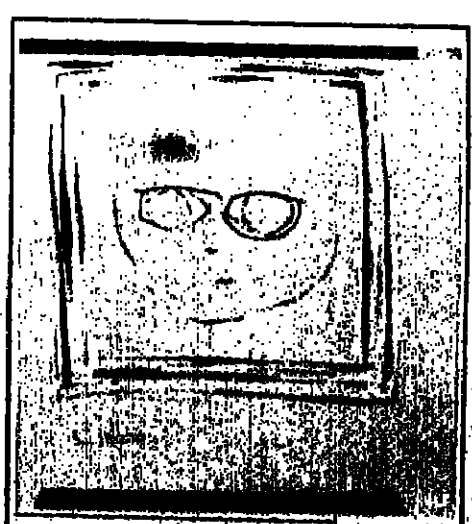
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INTERFACE  
The Star's computer  
column, starting next  
week

14 JUNE 1990

كنا من اجل



### On the record

● The Government will conduct high-level contacts with Gulf states in order to secure the conditions of Jordanian expatriates and increase their employment chances. A Yemeni delegation will arrive in Amman early next month to sign employment contracts with Jordanian teachers, technicians, engineers and doctors.

● Part-time employment will be implemented in government agencies shortly. The Government has asked the Civil Service Bureau to prepare lists of available jobs and conditions governing part-time employment.

● A study is being conducted to merge the Housing Corp. and the Urban Development Dept. The new body will be called the Housing and Urban Development Corp.

● The Government has requested from a number of foreign countries to supply it with details on systems used to count ballots by computers.

● A former ministry undersecretary is a likely candidate for the position of the general-director of the Arab Mining Co., which is vacant since the former director



Mr Al Taher

Mr Thabet Al Taher became minister of energy and mineral resources.

● The ministries of health in the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) countries are studying a proposal to issue an ACC health insurance card for their citizens.

● The ministers of trade and industry of the ACC countries will meet in Amman on 24 June. Trade and industry undersecretaries will meet on 22 June.

● Mu'tab University will establish a technical college to provide technical courses and training needed in the southern region of the country especially in the fields of mining, fertilisers and services.

### Tourism workshop to be held in July

AMMAN (Star)—A three-day Tourism Marketing Workshop is scheduled to open in Amman on Sunday 22 July. The workshop will concentrate on strengthening and improving the services sectors in Jordan which supports tourism. Representatives from local hotels, travel agents, tour operators and restaurants will participate in the workshop. International and domestic transportation services—air and land—will also be involved. The workshop is sponsored by the Private Services Development Project (PSDP). The workshop is based on a professional training programme on marketing and promotion of tourism.

### FOCUS ON PARLIAMENT

By Ahmad Al-Husban

● Deputies Thaqan Al Hindawi and Dr Ahmad Owedi Al Abbadi are involved in intensive contacts with other deputies aimed at forming a new bloc in the Lower House. Dr Abbadi said the first task before the new bloc will be to take a stand on a number of issues now on the floor while co-ordinating with other blocs in this regard.

● Attempts to revive the work of the National Assembly bloc are being launched among the bloc's remaining members, after three others left the bloc to hold ministerial positions. Members of the bloc met on Monday at Deputy Bassam Haddadin's office and they are expected to meet again during next week.

● Deputy Abedi Munir Abu Zant, who left for Libya as a member of a parliamentary delegation at the invitation of the Libyan General National Conference, has expressed his wishes to his hosts to deliver a Friday sermon in one of Libya's mosques.

● The High Council for Interpretation of the Constitution will hold its second meeting this week under its chairman Mr Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House. The council will study the constitutional articles related to the case of the President of the Audit Bureau Dr Hashem Al Dabbas to decide if the Lower House is allowed to discuss his retirement during its extraordinary session or not.

● The National bloc headed by Dr Abdullah Nour will meet today, Thursday, to discuss its members position on the National Health Institute (NHI). The House will vote on a proposal to disband the NHI after the Legal Committee adopts a final resolution on the matter. A number of the bloc's members have said they were for disbanding the NHI as long as an alternative umbrella under which all hospitals in the Kingdom will function is created.

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### Manufacturers discuss joint medicines market

AMMAN (Star)—A three-day seminar entitled "Towards a Joint Arab Pharmaceuticals Market" opened in Amman on Monday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The seminar, which was organised by the Arab Federation of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies Manufacturers, was attended by representatives of a number of local and Arab pharmaceutical manufacturers and members of specialised Arab agencies and organisations.

Deputising for Prince Hassan, Minister of Trade and Industry Dr Ziad Fariz told participants that Arab pharmaceuticals industry has a special role in the process of achieving a comprehensive Arab industrial base. He said, in a speech delivered on behalf of Prince Hassan, that the pharmaceuticals industry is a candidate for being a fast growing industry because of its dependency on technology and trained personnel. He called for overcoming a number of challenges including developing raw materials and concentrating on research and joint scientific development. He also said that there is a need for creating an Arab classification of medicines and increasing co-operation

among Arab countries while involving private and public sectors.

Mr Nizar Jardaneh, president of the Federation's council, told Petra news agency the purpose of holding the seminar was to put forward a practical outline for the establishment of a joint Arab pharmaceuticals market to ensure security in the field of medicine supplies at a suitable cost. This, he said, can only be achieved if proper co-ordination and co-operation among various pharmaceutical industries can be created.

He added that Jordan, Morocco and Egypt have gone a long way in achieving a formative stage of pharmaceuticals manufacturing and these countries are now able to satisfy the great local demand for medicines. "But since most raw materials are imported from abroad we can never attain sufficiency in the field of medicines," Mr Jardaneh said.

Twelve papers have been presented and discussed during the three days covering the basics and conditions that should be made available before a joint Arab pharmaceuticals market is established.

Arab pharmaceuticals industry currently meets 34 per cent of

the Arab world's consumption, but this percentage varies from one country to the other. In Egypt it reaches 30 per cent while it is zero per cent in Somalia, said Mr Jardaneh. He added that Jordan's experience in pharmaceuticals industry has been a pioneering one since Jordan meets 30 per cent of its demand while exporting 80 per cent of its local production of manufactured medicines "which means that trade balance for medicines is in favour of Jordan which makes it unique among Arab countries," says Jardaneh. (See related story on page 9).

Regarding the issue of pricing of imported medicines in Jordan, Mr Jardaneh said an agreement between the Ministry of Health and local importers has been reached to re-adjust the prices of all imported medicines in accordance with foreign exchange rates as of 2 June this year while introducing decreases ranging from 4 to 16 per cent on a number of medicines of various classifications.

He also said that the agreement calls for keeping the price of local medicines as they are despite the losses born by local producers because of the in-

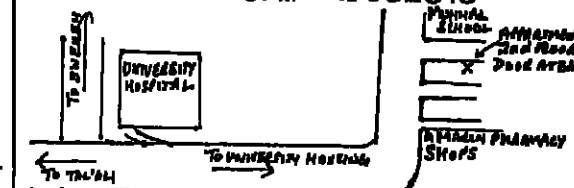


Participants in the seminar

crease in the cost of imported raw materials which in turn increases the cost of production by 50 per cent. "But because local

pharmaceutical industries now rely on exports they can cover these losses," said Mr Jardaneh.

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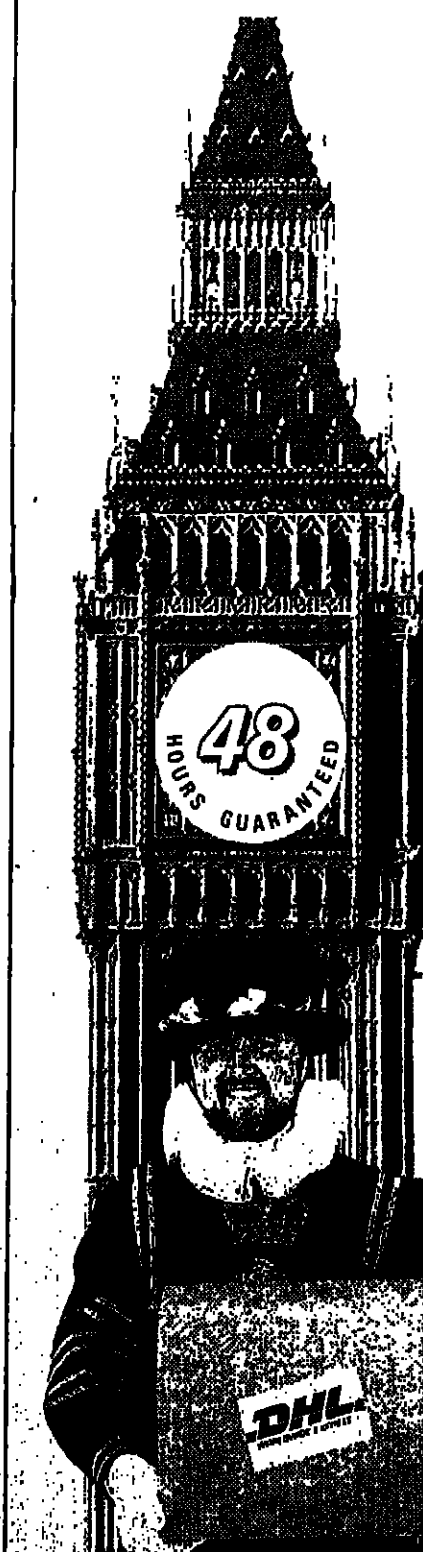
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THE STAR 3

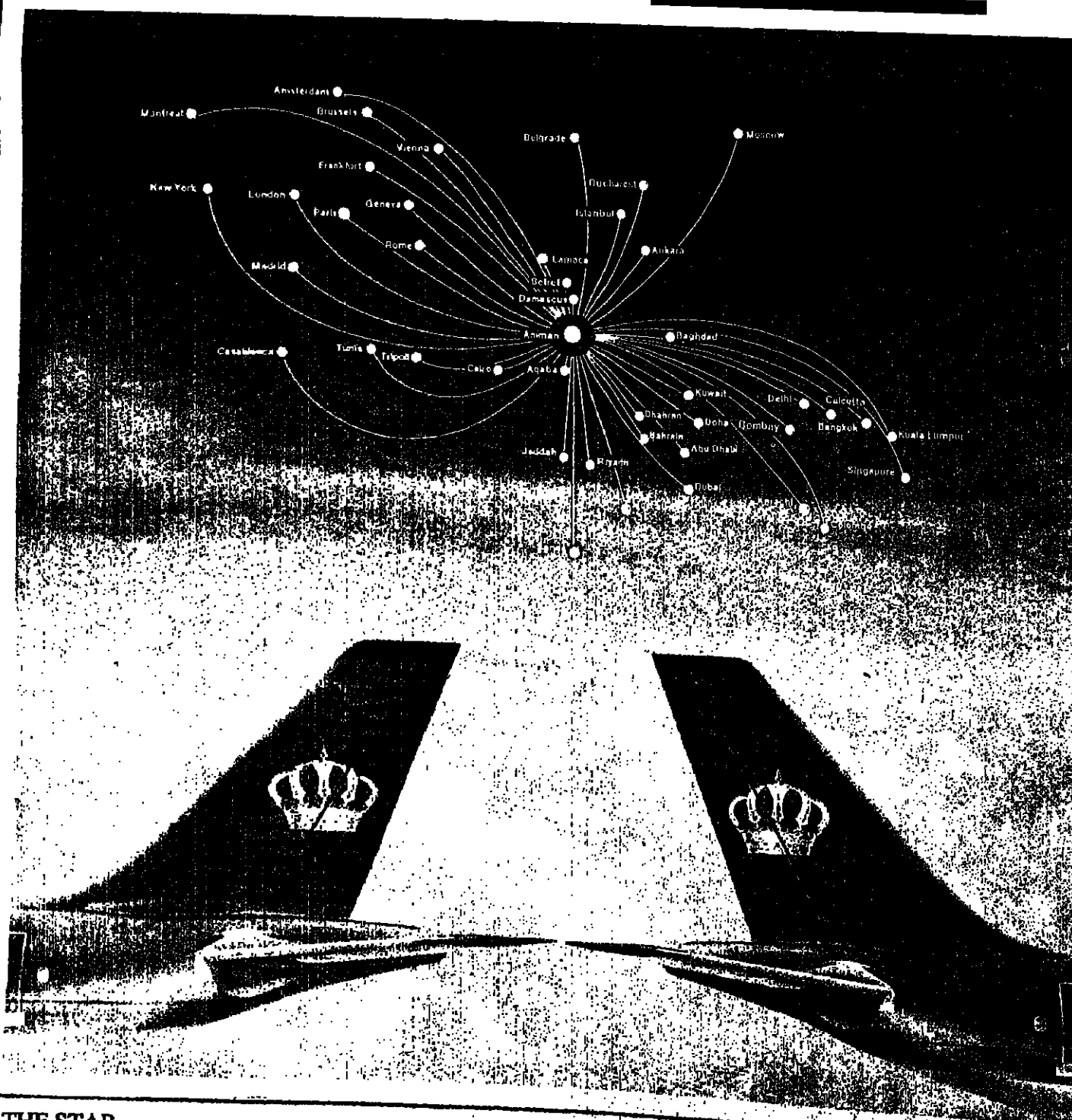
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2 THE STAR



By a Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — This year's Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts (11-27 July) promises to be more organised than any of the previous eight festivals, but it is also the first to be held with no direct financial support from official or private parties. In fact the organisers, the National Committee for Jerash Festival, are hoping that the festival will be able to survive the economic crunch and become almost self-sufficient. To do so and to cope with the absence of government subsidies, a major cut in the festival's budget has been implemented in an attempt to cut down the size of its budget deficit. This year's budget is expected to be around JD 100,000 down from an estimated JD 250,000 for previous festivals.

But the Festival Director Mr Akram Massarueh says this will not affect the diversity and richness of this year's event. He promises a better organised, cleaner, colourful and comprehensive cultural festival.

The Armed Forces, Public Security Dept., Jordan Radio and Television Corp. and Royal Jordanian (RJ) are still extending their services to the festival, but the administration has had to cancel its previous arrangements of offering free tickets and accommodations to international cultural groups. This has affected the number of international groups willing to come to Jerash, says Mr Massarueh. But he adds that budget constraints in European countries have also added to this problem where ministries of culture have less money to spend on subsidising tours of their national cultural companies.

"Now we only offer free tickets to poets and critics, but international cultural troupes, which pay their own way, are competing to participate in the festival simply because the festival occupies a unique position on the Arab cultural map," says Mr Massarueh.

The participants do not make financial benefits from their participation in the Jerash Festival, but to be part of the festival is a "credit" to them according to Mr Massarueh.

But despite the financial constraints on the festival's programme, the organisers believe they have a strong infrastructure which could still attract visitors. Among the popular events with Jordanian and Arab visitors is the Arab Poem Festival, which will be devoted to "The Arab Poem against the Invaders." Also some of the Arab world's well known critics will participate in a series of seminars on the state of Arab literature and

## All set for Jerash '90 Festival director promises a colourful event despite economic crunch



Omieah folkloric troupe from Syria

thought.

Another popular event taking place during the festival is the handicrafts exhibition and the Jordanian book fair. "So the main structure of the festival is there, but there is no doubt that the number of participating troupes is less than previous years," says Mr Massarueh. He says his main concern was to preserve the festival and maintain an acceptable standard despite the economic pressures.

But he promises this year's visitors a more organised event which will be visible to those attending and participating in the festival's activities.

Three separate entrances (one for diplomats and VIPs) have been established in addition to providing more parking space. Stalls selling various foods have been banned and the food catering responsibility has been awarded to the Marriott Hotel, which will run two serving areas, one in a major restaurant and the other (in a tent) will serve various snacks and drinks. Another tent will house a traditional coffee shop with storyteller and a puppet theatre. The number of public toilets has been increased while major arrangements have

been taken to ensure cleanliness.

Mr Massarueh refutes allegations that the festival constitutes a financial burden on the country. He says critics are missing the point behind holding cultural festivals since they are not meant to make money in the first place. "One cannot apply a financial yardstick on culture, but we hope we can reach a stage where we can meet our expenses," he says. He hopes that this year's festival will be able to balance its expenditures in relations to its income.

The Jerash Festival, running in its tenth year, is the only major cultural event in the region. Despite its previous organisational and current financial problems it remains the most successful and colourful event in the area. In addition, Mr Massarueh says, one has to bear in mind that its timing, during the summer months, makes it the only cultural event of its kind which Arab and foreign visitors can attend this time of the year. Most of the festival's activities are free of charge, while entry fee is still JD 1 for which the visitor is entitled to attend the poetry and literary events, the handicrafts exhibition, the book fair and the daily cultural events at the Forum. Fees are charged on major events held at the Southern amphitheatre in "order to keep the festival's wheels running."

This year the festival's administration has embarked on an ambitious plan to market the Jerash Festival in the Arab world and internationally. There are plans to hold additional cultural activities after and before the festival in order to attract tourists from all parts of the world. The festival committee is also studying proposals to record on film some of the major events taking place during the festival and sell it to Arab and other television stations as a way to diversify and increase the festival's income.

These steps are taken in close co-operation with the Ministry of Tourism, Royal Jordanian and

culture in this country and should be judged as such.

Mr Massarueh says that the festival represents no threat to the ancient Roman ruins of Jerash. In fact, he says, the festival has been one of the most important factors in publicising the importance of Jerash. It also attracted official attention to the need to renovate and preserve Jerash and this is why, he says, there are a number of expeditions working on the sites to renovate and rebuild parts of the city like the northern theatre, which when renovated will be used by the festival.

As to this year's main attractions the festival's programme includes a number of Arab and foreign participants including the Omieah folkloric troupe from Syria, the Mevlevi Sema group from Turkey, the Adabian Ballet Group from the Soviet Union, folkloric groups from Yugoslavia, Pakistan, India, Yemen and Jordan, in addition to classical and jazz music groups from the United States (the Gary Burton Jazz Quintet), Poland (the Warsaw Accordion Quintet) and a quartet from France.

Two popular Arab singers, Amr Diab (Egypt) and Nael Shael (Kuwait), will also participate in this year's festival, while an Egyptian play (Cairo 90) based on a Najib Mahfouz novel will be performed at the Southern Theatre. In addition Jordanian participation will be noticeable this year with a number of folkloric and theatrical troupes participating including the Jordan National Folklore Troupe, the Radio Jordan Orchestra, 20 Fuhais Singing Troupe, the Jordan Armed Forces Band and other folk troupes. Jordanian universities will be making a presence through the Yarmouk Troupe for Arabic Music and a play by University of Science and Technology students. A number of children's plays will be performed during the festival.

even private sector parties.

Regarding some public criticism against holding the festival, Mr Massarueh says the event is not held to spite any one in particular, but it is an important cultural event and "we think that the overall festival activities have gained the trust and the backing of citizens." Still Mr Massarueh says that people have the right to evaluate and criticise some of the events that are taking place, but he points again to the fact that the Jerash Festival is one of the mechanisms of developing



The Pakistani group

21 JUNE 1990

## Running a 'united' Amman Municipality fights to keep head above waterline

By a Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) is looking with optimism at the 1990s despite present economic difficulties, says Amman Mayor Mr Ali Suheimat. Mr Suheimat who presides over the four-year-old Council for the Committee of the Greater Amman, promises the capital's over one million residents, a continuation of GAM's efforts to provide essential services, maintain and expand the city's infrastructure while improving on the city's urban look.

The 51-member council will finish its mandate by the end of this year, which is expected to be renewed. But Mr Suheimat is already contemplating a new strategy for running the affairs of the city based on decentralisation. "Greater Amman is a united city of rural and town councils and in order to avoid negative aspects which result in short-sighted and un-coordinated planning, it must remain so," Mr Suheimat says. The present council now has representatives of rural and town councils on its board in addition to representatives of public and private sectors which provide important urban services to various parts of the city like electricity, water and sewage, telecommunications, transport. The board even has representatives from the chambers of trade and industry.

Few years ago the government had hired an international consultancy firm to present a futuristic study of the city's comprehensive development. The firm and GAM worked together to study all aspects of Amman's present and future organisational needs and realities. The final report covering Amman's growth for the next 15 years until the year 2005, has been presented to Mr Suheimat who says its conclusions, which were based on information obtained in 1985, will have to be amended because of the economic changes which affected the country since the end of 1988. Still there are a number of recommendations and guidelines which will be studied by a technical committee whose report will be reviewed by a higher committee chaired by Prime Minister Mudar Badran in

its meeting next week.

But Mr Suheimat's main occupation are proposals on how to run Amman during the coming years. An initial perception which rests on de-centralisation, calls for dividing the city into administrative councils with each council having its unique specification in terms of population, geographical location, borders and its ability to perform as an administrative unit within the framework of GAM. Each local council will be run by citizens, who may be elected, in addition to appointed representatives of official departments which provide the council with essential services.

"As to the Amman's council, it is composed of the heads of these councils (who are appointed as council presidents by the government) in addition to the general directors of the services directorates and corporations and other representatives," says Mr Suheimat. "But these are only ideas." Amman mayor is then chosen from among the members of the GAM council by the government.

The proposed local councils will have powers in planning, zoning and budgeting under the supervision of the GAM's council. "As to joint and public projects, it will be under the control of the Greater Amman Municipality," says Mr Suheimat. While GAM's sources of income remain the same, coming mostly from various city and services taxes, the municipality is facing mounting budget constraints for two main reasons. One is due to the rise in the cost of maintenance, spareparts and raw materials while the other is GAM's debts and losses on a number of projects.

The increase in operations and maintenance costs will probably affect the standard of the GAM's services. For instance "this year we set aside the same amount of money we usually set for insecticides, but while this money could buy 46 tons of pesticides in previous years, this year it only bought 14 tons," says Mr Suheimat. The same applies on the cost of cleaning the city's streets, maintaining its infrastructure or buying spareparts for GAM's automobiles.



"If we didn't have certain burdens related to servicing our loans and interests ... the municipality's income would be sufficient and would meet our ambitions." — Mayor Ali Suheimat

This year GAM will pay JD 6.9 million to settle and service debts and interests and between JD 8 to 10 million for depreciations. "Added to this is the huge number of employees we currently have which we can do nothing about," Mr Suheimat says.

To cope with these economic realities, GAM has initiated a rationalisation programme aiming at saving money on fuel and equipment and stressing the need to maintain its fleet of cars, trucks and other heavy machinery at the lowest possible cost. "Our deficit does not constitute a heavy burden," says Mr Suheimat. "Our main concern are loans and depreciations."

In view of these realities GAM has had to review its previous plans and projects for the city of Amman. It had to reconsider its land possession policies and has decided to limit it as much as possible. In addition to this GAM has decided to forget altogether about its face-lift project in the centre of downtown Amman "for economic reasons." The

project whose cost was estimated at JD 4 million is now thought to be "not urgent". Instead GAM will spend JD 134,000 to widen one of the streets near the old vegetable marketplace in the downtown area.

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The Yugoslavian folkloric troupe

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THE STAR 5



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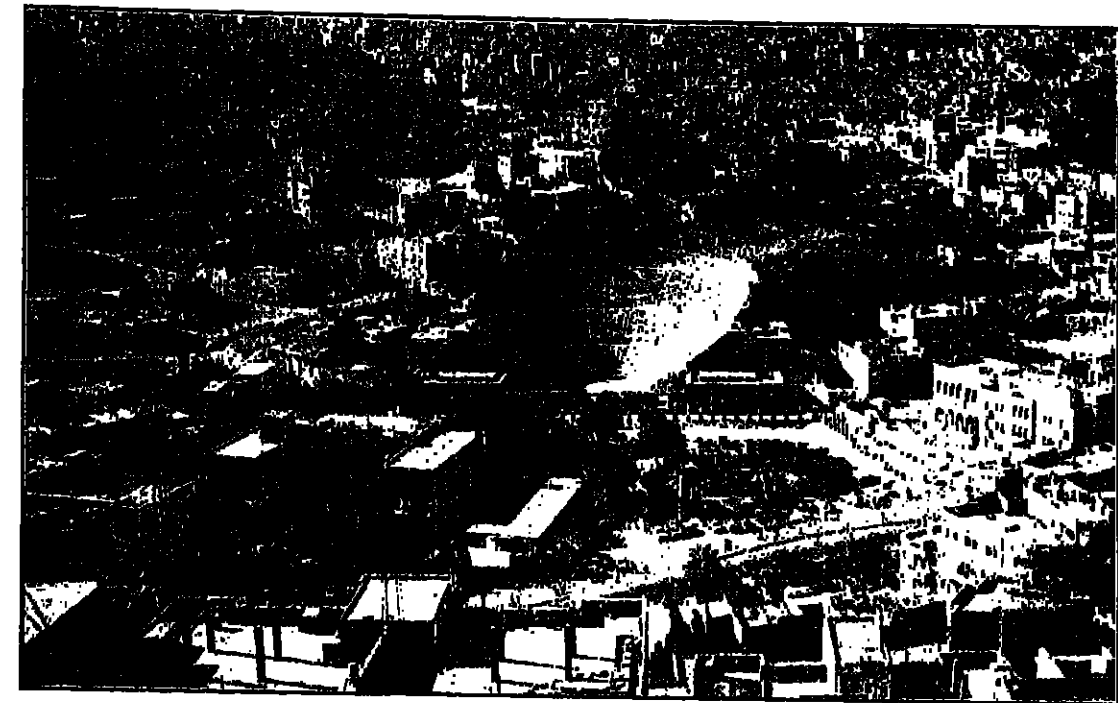
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## Nubian women set their priorities

NOT FAR from the temple of Kom Ombo in Upper Egypt, where the steamers plying the Nile discharge their daily load of tourists, a dry and parched land is coming alive with cultivation and village life. It is also buzzing with unfamiliar ways of earning a family income, which may change the life-style of the resident Nubian communities.

This recent chapter in the story of an ancient people began 20 years ago when, after construction of the Aswan High Dam, their villages were flooded by the rising waters of Lake Nasser. Construction of this gigantic power plant, meant to increase the supply of electricity to the rest of Egypt, forced the removal of the stone colossi of Abu Simbel above the level of the rising waters. The people also had to leave and the name of the village of New Abu Simbel farther down the Nile is a reminder of where their ancestral homes were.

There is already a second generation of Nubians in the resettlement areas, but their customs haven't changed much. The women still dress in black lace

over coloured skirts, wear beautiful jewellery and are as literate and outspoken as ever.

One doesn't see much of the men, though. Like so many other Egyptians, they have migrated to the cities and to other countries in search of work.

Fauzeya is one of the women whose lives have been affected. There are poorer households than hers in the village of Abreem, but with her husband working abroad life became hard and monotonous until she got the chance to travel to Alexandria for a training course. A preliminary survey had shown that beekeeping was well suited to her village. Although no one knew how to raise bees, there were flowering date palms nearby and a demand for honey.

So Fauzeya learned the basics of beekeeping and figured out all the advantages it could bring to Abreem. When she returned, she became the animator of a production group. Now, every afternoon, she and the others don their masks and gloves, inspect the hives and, when the time comes, take them to a hand-cranked centrifuge that brings



A Nubian woman at her beehive: Learning the basics of small-scale business

out the tasty honey.

In another village, Addendan, the line chosen for development was poultry. The women in the production group had to master the techniques leading to the present output of over 200 eggs a day. They mind fodder inputs and the use of disinfectant, care for the hens, go to market and keep the accounts. A lively village market nearby is their usual point of sale. When their van arrives, there is a throng of buyers

and the supply soon runs out.

This project is an outcome of the Egyptian government's policy to open up new lands for settlement and cultivation. The land from which these Nubian communities make a living is part of the reclaimed areas.

Even where land was available, the villagers often felt the need for new lines of production that could supplement family incomes. In 1988 the ILO and the Egyptian Ministry of Agricul-

ture, Food Security and Land Reclamation launched a joint project designed to create and support these activities. The area of Kom Ombo was chosen because of its generally low income levels. Centres for women were established in ten villages. The main targets were the women heading the poorest households, as well as girls and unmarried women who did not manage to finish school and were looking for work to do.

"We were surprised to see the women themselves requesting new activities," says Aziza Bar-Awad of the ILO's Rural Employment Policies Branch, which initiated the project. "There has been an enthusiastic welcome to the introduction of non-traditional work." For example, the production of shoes and handbags in Al Dakka, sheep breeding in Qersha and the upkeep of tree nurseries in Toshka.

With the carpet-weaving groups, advice on design is paramount for better access to local and tourist markets. In the case of knitting, the introduction of machines purchased by the ILO has speeded up production and turned the slow and patient job of the home knitter into a rational way of producing goods for sale.

"These new activities were selected by the villagers according to their own priorities," says Ashgan Abdel Meguid, the project's executive director. She comes regularly from Alexandria to tour the area and check on progress. There are no intentional experts on the staff.

The scheme is being watched with interest and 22 more villages are scheduled to enter the project. If expanding the economic role of women serves to enlarge their participation in community affairs, it will provide a model of action for other settlement areas in Egypt.

## Sexual violence in the media: A fresh look

By Daniel Linz and Edward Donnerstein  
Academic File

GENEVA — Violence against women occurs in every country and in every social and economic class. In many cultures, wife-beating is considered a man's right. All too often routine beating and rape of women and girls are considered "private matters" that do not concern others, be they the legal authorities or health personnel.

But violence has grown most noticeably and alarmingly within the domestic environment in media most accessible to homes. In television and in films, violence and particularly sexual violence against women has been the increasing factor in the past two decades.

We undertook our studies of violent pornography both because we were curious about the effects on the public of exposure to such material, and because we were concerned about their negative impact on society's attitudes towards women in general and towards human kind in particular.

Imagine for a moment a malevolent psychologist who wanted to design a programme to enable people to view, calmly, the torture and dismemberment of women. What steps would be taken. First, the psychologist might have his or her subjects

read about the torture and mutilation of women. Most of these patients would find this troubling at first, but, as they read more, and more they would probably be less disturbed by it. After the patients became accustomed to these readings, the psychologist might use stronger stimuli. The patients would be asked to view photographs of mutilated female bodies. Then, as the patients became "desensitized," they might be asked to watch actors engaged in simulated scenes of violence.

After watching scene after scene of such violence, we might expect the patients to have become quite tolerant of actual mutilation. To make the procedure more pleasant for the patients — and also to make the desensitisation process more efficient the psychologist might provide the patients with their favourite food, or have them imagine something pleasant in the scene.

In the United States, during the past 10 to 15 years, a whole genre of films — sometimes called "slasher films" or "splatter films" — has emerged. These films play to millions of people in the US movie theatres and on television through video cassettes.

Surveys of local high schools in Southern California and in New York City indicate that these are the most popular types of film among 11-13 year olds.

Our concern is that these films may be doing to society exactly what the fictional psychologist described above might have done to make his patients more tolerant of violence and cruelty. So we set about testing the premise that violence towards women, like rape and beating, becomes more acceptable to people after they have seen infinitely

**We hope that film-makers everywhere will recognise the damaging effects that such films have on society in general and on women in particular, and will begin to show themselves capable of exercising a greater degree of social responsibility.**

greater violence in films.

We conducted basically two types of study, those in which participants (frequently university students who have volunteered to take part in the study) are asked to watch only 10 to 20 minutes of films, and those in which participants view films over a longer period, maybe over several days or weeks.

We found that young college men who viewed even short film segments depicting sexual violence expressed greater accep-

ance of rape myths than those young men who watched non-violent films of women. Other researchers have obtained similar results in their studies. Men who watched slasher films and films in which men physically and verbally abused women in order to have sex with them, recommended lower sentences for an accused rapist in mock trials which were part of the study.

They also found that, compared to men who watched non-violent sexually suggestive films, many more men who watched sexual violence expressed the belief that women they know "would enjoy being raped."

In our studies in which young men watched films over a period of days or weeks, we found that sexually explicit material without violence had no effects on attitudes towards women. But results were very different for those young men who watched films showing overt violence against women or films which intermingled sex and violence — the so-called slasher films. This second group of men showed far less concern for women who had been raped and were much more accepting of using force in sexual encounters. In brief, our find-

ings show that it is the violent component of these films that does the damage to viewers' attitudes not the sexual component.

In today's world, violence against women constitutes a major public health problem. In the US, nearly two million women a year are beaten in their homes and it is a fair assumption that many more such cases go unreported. Cases of rape are even more numerous and even less frequently reported; it has been estimated that only one rape is reported to the US authorities for every 10 actually committed.

Although our studies do not prove that men who watched sexually violent films will commit rape as a result, they do show that these men will find rape and violence against women more acceptable. As men, husbands and fathers ourselves, we are personally and morally deeply offended by media depictions of women that lead to such attitudes. We hope that film-makers everywhere — for this problem is in no way confined to the United States or even to the "western" world — will recognise the damaging effects that such films have on society in general and on women in particular, and will begin to show themselves capable of exercising a greater degree of social responsibility.

21 JUNE 1990

## Art with a symbolic message

By Hind-Lara Mango  
Special to The Star

RIFKI AL RAZZAZ is an Egyptian artist with a social message. He has spent the past seven years in Jordan reflecting through his art the patriotic and historical functions of the artist. His large paintings, whether they are painted on his own hand-made canvas or on wood, retain a symbolic value especially for the Arab viewer. For instance, he deals with the theme

every evening I have to unload the commercial side to my work from my psyche. Strangely enough though, I cannot function at work if I do not paint every evening." Rifki, however, does not paint alone. His six year old son who shows early signs of being an artist himself, stubbornly refuses to leave his father's side and go to bed. He is ever persistent to paint like his father and so is given large pieces of paper to paint on, which his parents carefully put away in his own portfolio.

Rifki's childhood was spent in the rural parts of Egypt. Ever since the age of six his uncles, who are themselves re-known artists, put a brush in his hand and encouraged him to paint. By the time he reached the secondary level of education, Rifki had mastered all the requirements for a Bachelors degree in art.

At the University of Hilwan in Cairo, Rifki faced some conflicts. "For one thing, this institute prepares one to be an art teacher. I did not want this, my dream was and still is to integrate Arabic lineaments in art which the world would respect as it does Cubism, the Ro-

manic philosophy, and so forth," he explains. This, he says, takes a lot of hard work, experimentation, and patience to achieve. The 32-year-old artist feels that now he holds the 'threads' for this long-awaited for achievement.

Because he felt that the university was not teaching him anything he did not know already, Rifki started to skip classes while saving money for practical courses. During his second academic year he participated in the International Spring Festival for Art and since then he has taken part in many group and individual exhibitions. He believes that "art is never taught to you at college; an artist is born an artist because one might have the talent or the feeling for art, but this is not sufficient to make a real artist. If art just consisted of the academic side then anyone could become an artist." What differentiates an artist from a person with purely technical artistic skills is the creative process, Rifki says.

As for the art movement in Jordan, Rifki feels that it is moving too fast with hazardous repercussions. He says Jordanian

artists are jumping from one facet of art to another in huge leaps. Until now Al Razzaz has gone through two phases in his artistic career. One which he spent searching for his identity. The other phase is the budding of his ideas. This has taken him a long time "but any natural development requires time and certain steps that must be adhered to and cannot be omitted," he says.

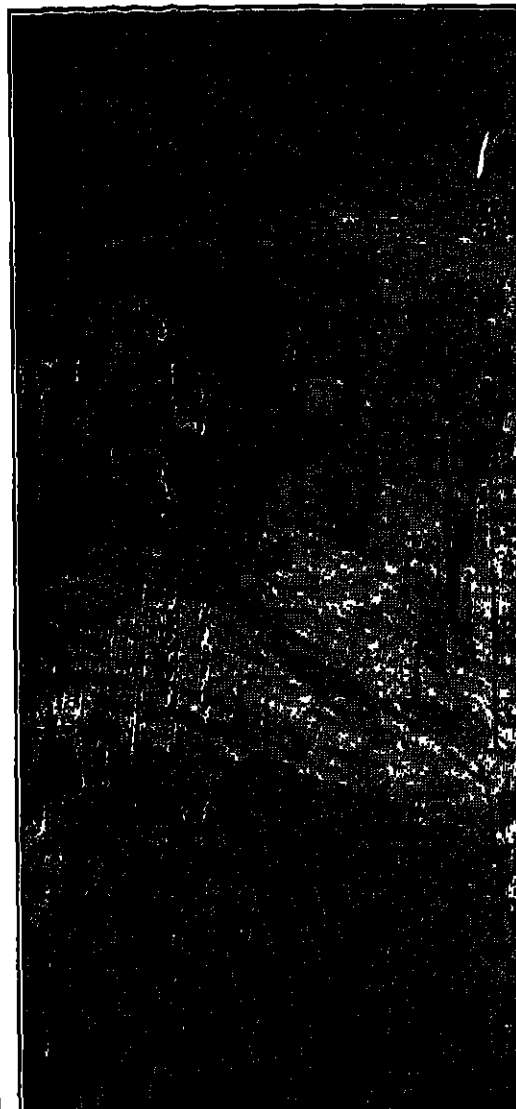
Rifki is against the idea of self-isolation. He holds to the idea that an artist is also the product of his interaction with society for he both acts and is acted upon. His work is the outcome of his friction with all classes in society. Rifki asserts that the major problem in Jordan is that "the artist here tries to isolate himself from people and views his audience in a condescending manner."

Rifki is an artist with many philosophical ideas and accordingly he approaches his art in such a manner. His paintings have their own symbolic codes illustrated in the scattered human motifs. These multi-shaped motifs were a part of his first stage of development as an artist. Now, this motif has taken on larger proportions and different shapes according to the incident being transmitted. It is also embodied within one form in the same work whereas it was previously scattered all over the canvas. When he conveys his messages one is deceived by the serene pastel colours used into a sense of complacency and well-being. For he employs his oil colours for transparent effects making use of a lot of white with its various tones. This technique is epitomised to the full in his 2m x 44 cm interpretation of



The artist's interpretation of the Intifada

Amman. Amman's bright light is broken and reflected off the crowded square built buildings and houses making up part of this city's personality. The light pinks, blues and yellows hit the shapes from all directions and mirror a truly Arab atmosphere. This painting in particular was the focal point of his last and only exhibition in Jordan. His next show will be in the coming few months.



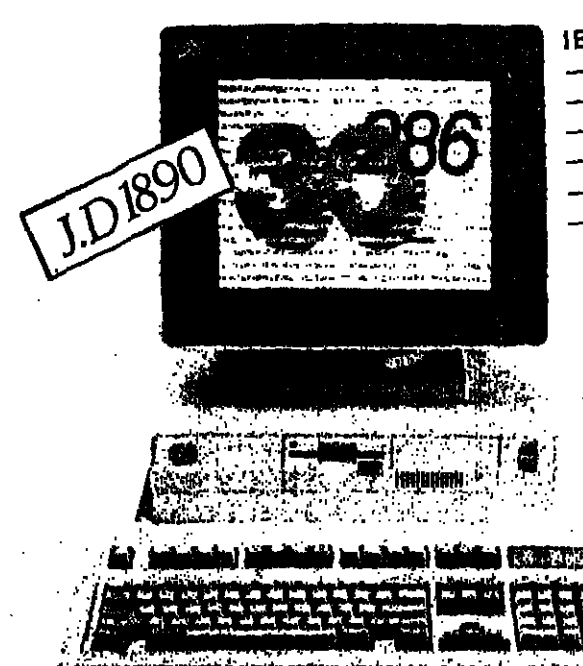
Portrait of Amman

of the Intifada in a personal and unconventional manner. The olive branch, the bleeding pigeon, and the child with a stone in his hand, are considered over-used clichés. Rifki interprets the Palestinian Uprising in the form of a child's abstracted face drawn in stark lines. The child's intentionally unproportioned eyes convey a sense of innocence and fear. But what attracts the eye here is the wide white bandage wrapped around his head. Sand bag cloth is used to give the effect of a bandage and on it a smudged red patch gives the impression of head wound. The whole portrait is done with a green square frame and is lifted towards the top of the canvas rather than the traditional centre. As with most of his works, Rifki prefers to use different focal and central points keeping in mind harmony and balance.

Like most artists in the Arab world, Rifki cannot make a living by his art. Consequently, he spends ten hours a day working as a graphic designer and then goes home to paint for two more hours. He says "before painting

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THE STAR 7

هكذا من الأسهل



# All roads lead to the Hammam of Erbil

By Leon Y. Barkho  
Special to The Star

ERBIL, Iraq — It might never have occurred to Qasim Agha, an 18th century notable from Erbil, that his hammam built on the high mound occupying the centre of this northern Iraqi city would one day be declared a major tourist attraction.

The hammam (or public bath) has been restored on a grand scale. The furnace used to boil the water and heat the steam room is no longer choked with stacks of wood and garbage and the interior is now remarkably well-lit and clean. On a recent day, visitors roamed about freely, enjoying the ambience of one of the earliest places for social gatherings in Erbil.

The restoration of the hammam was part of a more extensive effort by the Antiquities Department to refurbish the old Qal'a or Citadel, considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited ancient sites in the world. The restoration programme so far has touched only a few of the old buildings in the Citadel.

The hammam was high on the restorers' list of priorities, as they hoped the building would eventually be turned into an ethnographical museum, specialising in the manners, customs and folklore of Kurds in the city. Erbil, 350 km north of Baghdad, is the capital of Iraq's Kurdish Autonomous Region.

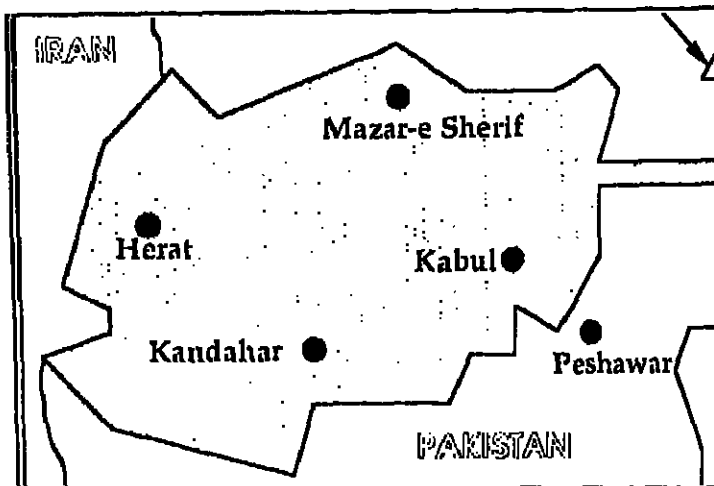
It's often forgotten that until quite recently, public baths occupied a significant place in the lives of great cities. People of all ages and ranks frequented them and the philanthropic among the rich townspeople spent lavishly on the construction and ornamentation of hammams. Even in times of war and upheaval, when hostile forces took or pillaged towns, the hammams kept functioning.

The private baths in homes may have reduced the role which public baths enjoyed in the past, the architectural beauty of the buildings and their social role is increasingly being recognised.

In ancient Iraq the hammam was nonexistent and only became popular after The Romans brought the 'culture' of the public bath to Syria and Palestine.

The advancing Arab armies of the seventh century found the

The restoration of the ancient Qal'a, or Citadel, in Erbil has brought with it renewed interest in the old tradition of the Turkish Bath, attracting tourists to a beautiful ancient hammam.



practice of a hot bath very agreeable and took up the habit with such enthusiasm that the building of a public bath soon came to be regarded as a pious act.

The design of Agha's Hammam in Erbil is similar to that of the surviving public baths in Baghdad, which still have a following among the older generation of Baghdad residents.

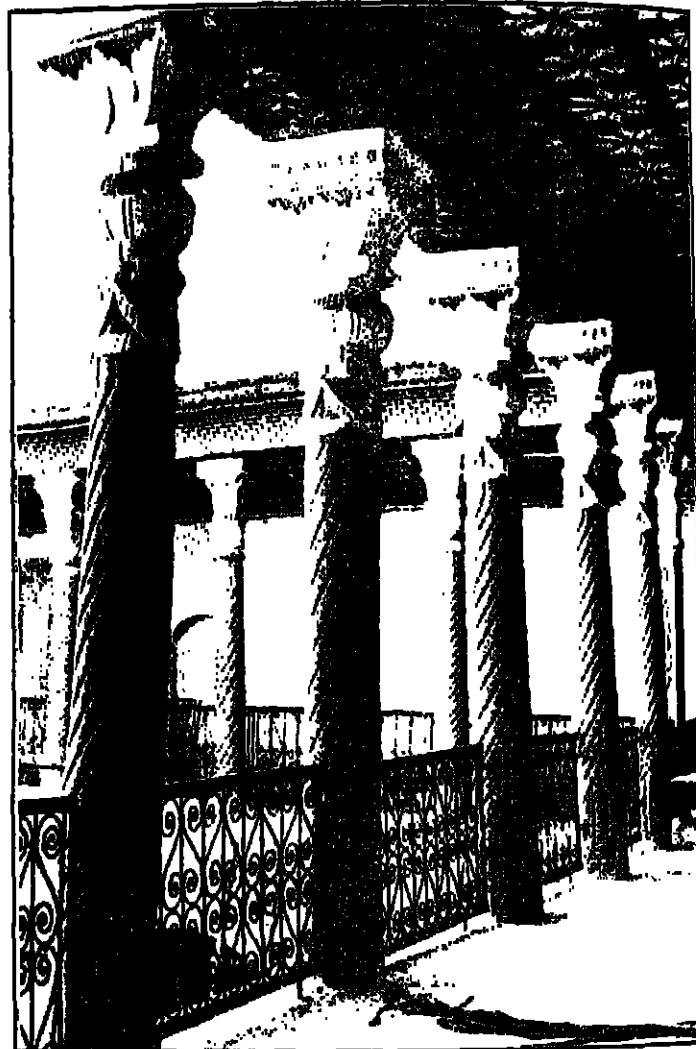
Built in 1775, Qasim Agha's Hammam has two dressing rooms, both long and vaulted. The walls are lined with hooks used to hang clothes on.

A domed steam room with tiled floor, though without windows, is very well-lit by several apertures in the roof. Large cisterns of water, each served by hot and cold taps are in their original places.

But water for the hammam, which was provided by a 60-metre deep well, is no longer available.

Kareem Fathi, head of the restoration team, said the well produced sufficient water in the past for the Hammam and a large sec-

A part of the Erbil Citadel, which has been restored to its former glory



tion of the Citadel's residential quarter. "Unfortunately, no more water can be obtained at present," he said, "as nearly half of the well is filled with rubbish."

The way in which the water was heated and boiled would probably appeal to modern environmentalists. Garbage from all over the Citadel was collected in a dump and then taken to an incinerator placed under the water tank, from which pipes radiated to the steam room. "It was stoked day in and day out so that the Qala's inhabitants and visitors could enjoy a hot bath at any time of the day," Fathi added.

The renovation work, however, concentrated on restoring the hammam to its former architectural glory and it has been particularly successful. Electric lights and new building material have been used as unobtrusively as possible and few, if any, structural changes have been made. A visitor with some knowledge on the functions of public baths can easily identify the uses of the various parts of the building.

Passing through a small courtyard and then through a marble lined door, the visitors enter the dressing rooms. Here customers of the baths took off their clothes, hung them on the hooks, wrapped towels round their waists and slipped on sandals.

Then they moved into the domed and tiled steam-room where they could relax on a marble slab or ask a masseur to soap them or rub them down with an abrasive glove.

"Customers were never timed," said Fathi. "They could stay as long as they could bear the very hot and damp atmosphere."

When the bath was over, customers were served with refreshing tea or orange juice in the dressing room.

"The adventure," added Fathi, "would usually end with a special dish called pacha, made from a selection of sheep's head, ears, tongue, lips and brains, in broth served with bread and lemon."

The pacha is still a favourite among the gourmets of Erbil, but times have definitely changed in the hammam. The restored room, usually the hottest in a hammam, is now very cool in summer and warm in winter. In contrast to the blissful silence of a public bath in full steam (literally), it is not uncommon, on a given day, to hear the patter of visitors' feet in the restored interiors. But then a restored bath is better than a neglected one.

Leon Y. Barkho is a lecturer at the University of Mosul in northern Iraq.

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# ECONOMY The Star

\$25 million sales in 1990

## Al Hikma establishes a pharmaceuticals base in Portugal

By Pam Dougherty  
Special to The Star

THE MORE you diversify your markets the better you are," says Mr Samir Darwazah, general manager of Al Hikma Pharmaceuticals, a company which is a successful and expanding member of one of Jordan's most consistent industrial sectors.

Al Hikma is now taking its own advice with plans to double its production capacity in Jordan to deal with its expanding local and Arab markets and a new project for a factory in Portugal which it hopes will be the entry point for sales to Europe, both East and West. Mr Darwazah says pharmaceutical production has always been something of a special case for Jordan's industrial and export development as it was a sector which had to start with the highest standards of quality. You can begin with second grade plastics for sale and hope to improve standards with experience, he says, but you can never offer a buyer second grade pharmaceuticals.

Jordan gained its chance to enter the pharmaceuticals market after nationalisation in the fifties led to stagnation in the Egyptian industry. At that point both Jordan and Lebanon began production but continuing civil war has now taken its toll of the Lebanese industry leaving Jordan as quality leader in the region. Egypt and the Maghreb countries are also major producers but are battling to produce enough to satisfy their domestic markets.

Jordanian companies now provide around 40 per cent of Jordan's needs and Mr Darwazah is confident that the rising costs of imported pharmaceuticals will boost the local share even further. Exports however will continue to provide the lion's share of all local manufacturers' business.

Al Hikma was established in 1979 and produces a range that now includes antibiotics, analgesics, gastro-intestinal products and some psychotropics, and Mr Darwazah says that 85 per cent of its \$25 million sales in 1990 will be to export markets.

To date the company has developed good markets throughout the Arab world but has always been conscious of the fact that the Middle East and North African markets take only 2 per cent of world pharmaceutical production while North America, Japan and Europe each take around 30 per cent.



Pharmaceuticals industry: Expanding fast as an export industry

One approach was to gain the approval of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for some of its products and to begin the lengthy process of gaining FDA approval of its manufacturing premises so that it can sell on the US market. The FDA approval is not a short road to new export markets and Mr Darwazah says final approval may take a long time but the approval of individual products has been, he says, a source of great satisfaction to staff at Al Hikma and gives a healthy boost to the reputation of the company generally.

And because gaining entry to the European market for its Jordanian production would also require a lengthy process of registration, Al Hikma has chosen to establish its own factory in Portugal. The company has already acquired the necessary finances for investment.

Initially all production will be at the Portuguese plant but Al Hikma hopes eventually to send semi-finished products from Jordan thus providing a further boost to its local production.

Once the Portuguese production has found its place in the local market, the company will be able to look further to other European Community markets and, possibly to the newly developing markets of Eastern Europe.

In the long term the company is aiming for exports of \$60 million annually by 1995 of which its Portuguese branch will be responsible for around 30 per cent. Overall Mr Darwazah is confident that Jordan's pharmaceutical industry has a good future. He says its products have now established a reputation in the Arab World for high quality and low prices and also offer the guarantee of ready availability in times of crisis.

He says he is also happy to see efforts towards more co-operation in production both locally and on a pan-Arab basis providing it is always done on a voluntary basis. He believes strongly that any form of monopoly is bad for the consumer but expects that a certain amount of specialisation among local companies will develop naturally over time and that pan-Arab companies can play a useful role providing they are willing to work in an open, competitive market.

## First garage expo to be held in Jordan

AMMAN (Star) — The first Middle East exhibition on garage services will take place in Jordan next year. Mid East Garage Expo 91, will be held at the Automobile Exhibition Centre in Amman between 2 to 5 May 1991 and will be the first of its kind in the Middle East. The exposition will cover all aspects of equipment, supplies and service for the garage and service station trades. About 100 international companies are expected to participate in the event which is organised by the UK-based Tyre Exhibitions Ltd.

The exhibition will feature automotive spare parts, vehicle lifts, car wash systems, gas and forecourt equipment, batteries, tools, tyres, tyre retreading equipment and supplies, tyre fitting and servicing equipment, wheel alignment and balancing machinery and diagnostic servicing equipment. "In fact it will have everything for the auto trade," says Mr Peter Taylor, director of the Imported Tyre Manufacturers Association, which is associated with the organisers.

His Jordanian counterpart, Mediterranean Trading Corp. has suggested that Jordan be the venue of this event, "because its geographic position and infrastructure makes it an ideal choice, serving as it does, as an area in the centre of a region that already numbers some 10 million vehicles," says Mr Taylor.

The organisers hope that the Jordan exhibition will provide a unique shop-window for the automotive business in "a region where such opportunities are still rare, but where future prospects are excellent."

Mr Taylor says that Mid East Garage Expo will be an innovative attempt to launch "what we expect will be a number of regular specialist industrial trade exhibitions in the Middle East most of which we hope will be based in Amman."

He said that the Amman-based exhibition is not just aimed at the local Jordanian market, but mostly at the Gulf. "We see Jordan as a convenient and practical location for exhibitors from all over the world especially from North America, Europe and the Far East," Mr Taylor says.

## Briefs

By Ahmad Shaker

● A decision will be announced shortly to transfer the ownership of the Aqaba Railway Corp. to the Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., The Star has learned.

● The Government is studying a proposal to purchase Yugoslavian vessels in return for phosphates. The vessels will be used to operate a maritime freight line between European ports and Red Sea ports.

● A joint study has been initiated between the Social Security Corp. and the Jordanian Investment Corp. to establish a company that will organise and increase work opportunities for Jordanians in Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries.

● A study is being conducted to increase the production capacity of the fertiliser complex at Aqaba. The study aims at increasing production from 640,000 tons to 830,000 tons annually at a cost of \$31 million. The project will take two years to finish.

● Sources at the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources have said a study has been initiated to determine the volume of mineral oils and lubricants consumed in Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) countries. The purpose of the study is to prepare for negotiations with an international mineral oils producing company to build a factory in one of the ACC countries to supply these countries' needs of oils.

● A recent study on income distribution in the average Jordanian family has revealed that 45.6 per cent is spent on food, 32 per cent on housing, 7.6 per cent on clothing, 3.9 per cent on education, 2 per cent on health and 8.9 per cent on transportation.

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Euro-deposit rates:					
	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	8.1/8	7.13/16	14.3/4	7.25	8.13/16
2 mo.	8.1/8	7.15/16	14.7/8	7.25	8.13/16
3 mo.	8.3/16	8.1/16	14.7/8	7.31	8.5/8
6 mo.	8.7/16	8.5/8	14.15/16	7.28	8.1/2
1 year	8.7/16	8.1/2	14.15/16	7.28	8.3/8

Interbank rates (Jordan):  
Savings accounts 7.5%. Call accounts 8%, 1 week 8.0%,  
1 month 8.00%, 2 months 8.25%, 3 months 8.50%, 1 year  
9.0%. Lending rate (AAA) 12.5%.

Dollar:  
DMK SFR STG YEN CAN FRF  
LAST 1.6742/47 1.44152/62 1.7120/30 153.87/97 1.1735/40 5.6295/25

Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

## Arab Finance

<b>Banque Marocaine Pour l'Afrique et l'Orient</b> P.O. Box 880 Casablanca Telephone: 72401/2155 Telex: 22954 Cable: BAMAIO	26 Place Mohamed V Casablanca Telephone: 224101 Telex: 21902/22092/23727 Cable: MAROCOMI
Activities: Commercial bank Established: 1961 Financial data Authorized capital: MD 15,075,000 Paid-up capital: MD 15,075,000 Reserve: MD 296,293,711 Shareholders: Banque Nationale de Paris Inter- national (50%), Moroccan shareholders (50%)	Established: 1964 (taking over Moroccan branches of the Banque Nationale pour le Com- merce et l'Industrie - Afrique) Authorized capital: MD 50,000,000 Paid-up capital: MD 50,000,000 Reserve: MD 34,300,000 Total assets/liabilities: MD 2,253,940,000 Shareholders: Banque Nationale de Paris Inter- continentale (50%), Moroccan shareholders (50%)

Banque Marocaine pour le  
commerce et l'Industrie  
BP 573

## Matchmaking

<b>Coin Counting and Sorting Machine</b> An Austrian firm has developed a new coin counting and sorting machine, the LGE 2000, with two outstanding features: The machine will identify coins to an accuracy of 7 microns and can be programmed to handle 3 different currencies. The change from one currency to the next is effected by means of a switch. This chain-driven device will thus prove particularly handy for banks and frontier currency exchange offices.	WEKA Handelsgesellschaft mbH A 5020 Salzburg, Getreidegasse 21 Tel: 0043 662 84 26 86 Fax: 0043 662 84 07 84
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18 ct	5,850
Eng. pound	56,000
8g	49,000
7g	49,000
24ct (swiss)	8,750
Silver	
1 kg	150,000

## Money Matters

Average exchange rates on 16/6/1990		
	Buy	Sell
US\$	668.0	673.0
£	1139.6	1146.4
DM	396.0	398.4
SFR	467.5	470.3
FRF	117.7	118.4
YEN	433.5	436.1
DFL	351.8	353.9
SKR	109.6	110.3
LIT	54.0	54.3
BLF	191.8	193.0
(10)		

## Financial Market

**JORDAN SPINNING & WEAVING CO.**  
Established In: (1974)  
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cle/Al Waha Building  
Tel: (827381/2)  
P.O. Box: (12099)  
Telex: (215562) SPIN JO  
Fax: (827501)

No. of Employees Total  
Jordanians: 476  
Non Jordanians: 58

Data / Shares (JD) 1988  
Par Value/Share: 1  
Market Value/Share: 960  
Book Value/Share: 1.105

No. of Subscribed Shares:  
4,000,000  
No. of Traded Shares:  
4,450,847

Volume of Trading (JDs)  
4,026,602  
No. of Floor Contracts: 5,137  
Market Value of Subscribed  
Shares: 3,840,000

Capital & Shareholders' Equity:  
Authorized Capital: 4,000,000  
Subscribed Capital: 4,000,000  
Paid-in Capital: 4,000,000  
Compulsory Reserve: 217,022  
Voluntary Reserve: 206,546  
Retained Earnings:  
Shareholders' Equity:  
4,423,568

Assets, Liabilities/Profit & Loss  
Fixed Assets: 1,560,327  
Current Assets: 3,661,344  
Receivables: 2,107,318  
Total Assets: 5,221,671  
Current Liabilities: 6,444,988  
Long-Term Liabilities:  
Liabilities: 10,868,556  
Total Liabilities & Shareholders' equity: 10,868,556  
Net Sales: 4,050,589  
Net Income Before Taxes:  
829,517  
Net Income After Taxes:  
551,210  
Dividends Paid/Shareholders:  
320,000

Source: Amman  
Financial Market

## Business Notes

## Jordan's export potential

JORDAN'S QUALITY products could make a strong presence in the international market if potential resources are properly utilised, particularly in light of the devaluation of the local currency.

Increased and diverse production could also aim at meeting local demand so that Kingdom's import bills are kept down, although one of the most important priorities for Jordan is a clear identification of products for export. The government also has a major role to play in any effort to expand exports: Policies can affect the prices of goods and there is a need for increased co-ordination between the government and the private sector.

While the potential is there in Jordan to manufacture good-quality products, costs are relatively high. This could be remedied by mass production, better technology and increased shifts at various plants as means to cut costs.

Offering better training to technicians involved in the production process will also help a lot in reducing cost. "But the key to success of exports remains marketing," according to economist Riad Al Khouri. Jordan has some potentially excellent products which need to be marketed. Exporting them will provide the best way to increase output and raise efficiency.

## Facts &amp; Figures

## Central government revenues (Domestic revenues only)

References: REF. 1: Tax revenues/Domestic revenues) REF. 2: Tax revenues as a percent of GDP at market prices REF. 3: Non-tax revenues as a percent of GDP at market prices REF. 4: Total domestic revenues as a percent of GDP at market prices (REF. 2 plus REF. 3)					
	YEAR	REF.1	REF.2	REF.3	REF.4
ACTUAL	1983	56.4	15.9	12.3	28.2
	1984	56.0	15.5	12.2	27.7
	1985	55.9	15.3	12.1	27.4
	1986	46.3	14.5	16.9	31.4
	1987	45.6	14.4	17.1	31.5
REVISED	1988	46.9	-	-	-
	1989	45.8	-	-	-
	1990	52.5	-	-	-
ESTIMATED PROJECTED	1991	-	-	-	-
	1992	-	-	-	35.0
	1993	-	-	-	36.0

## Shows &amp; Exhibitions

## Fourth Middle East agriculture show set against US\$15 billion budget

MIDDLE EAST Agriculture 91 — the 4th in the series of specialised trade shows for the Arab Gulf states agricultural sector — is set for 25/26 November 1991 at the Dubai International Trade Centre.

Middle East Agriculture 91 takes place against a background of continuing investment in agricultural development as the region concentrates on its aim of self-sufficiency in food production. Current budget allocations exceeding \$15 billion are being channelled into establishing a modern agricultural base.

The show will provide a proven opportunity for international suppliers of agricultural equipment and expertise to gain access to this important market which uses modern technology for achieving this objective.

Further information from:  
Arabian Exhibition Management  
P.O. Box 20200, Manama  
Bahrain  
Tel: +973 250033  
Fax: +973 242381  
Tlx: 9103 EXHIB BN

## Contracts and contacts

TN: Tender Number; TD: Price of Tender Documents; BB: Value of Bid Bond; DS: Deadline for Sale of Tender Documents; DD: Date Sale of Tender Documents Begins; SB: Deadline for Submission of Bids; BO: Date Bids are Opened.

— The Higher Council for Science and Technology; supply of wall-to-wall carpeting, SB: 24/6/90, BB: 10%.

— General Supplies Dept. TN: 108/90, supply of wooden poles accessories, TD: JD 50, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 122/90, Supply of fertilisers, TD: JD 10, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 235/90, supply of X-Y plotter, computer, video recorder, typewriter, TD: JD 15, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 205/90, supply of textiles and bed covers, TD: JD 50, SB: 4/7/90, TN: 236/90, supply of photocopying machines, calculators, Arabic

type writers, TD: JD 7, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 238/90, supply of Dixon angles and shelves, TD: JD 510, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 241, supply of metal for decoration and protection, TD: JD 35, SB: 4/7/90, TN: 244/90, supply of laboratory equipment, TD: JD 20, SB: 16/7/90, TN: 550/90, Supply of plastic rollers, TD: JD, SB: 27/6/90.

— Water Authority, TN: 12/90/CW, Supply of air compressors TD: JD 100, BB: JD 7500, TN: 13/90/HP, supply of pumps, TD: JD 125, BB: 12500, TN: 14/90/SP, Supply of submerged pumps, TD: JD 250, BB: JD 2500 TN: 15/90/WWM, Supply of water metres, TD: JD 300, BB: JD 50,000, TN: 16/90/01, Supply of spare parts, TD: JD 125, BB: JD 12600, SB: 14/8/90.

— The Higher Council for Sci-

ence and Technology, supply of refrigerators, SB: 23/6/90, BB: 10%.

— Ministry of Education, TN: 48/90, supply of television aerial, cables, rotator cables, batteries, video camera, lamps and others, TD: JD 1, SB: 24/6/90.

— Telecommunications Corp. TN: MMS/90, Supply of fiber-glass cabins for pick-up cars, TD: JD 10, SB: 28/6/90.

— General supplies Dept., TN: 150/90 supply of equipment for veterinary laboratory, TD: JD 10, SB: 27/6/90, TN: 158/90, supply of equipment for female workshops, TD: JD 5, SB: 2/7/90, TN: 179/90, supply of camping gear, TD: JD 10, SB: 4/7/90, TN: 221/90, supply of medications, TD: JD 15, SB: 27/6/90, TN: 234/90, supply of furniture, TD: JD 5, SB: 27/6/90.

90. TN: 237/90, supply of ovens, fans and refrigerators, TD: JD 20, SB: 27/6/90.

— Ministry of Education; TN: 4/90, supply of various educational equipment, TD: JD 5, SB: 13/9/90.

— Public Security Dept. Re-tendering, drip irrigation system TD: JD 5, SB: 1/7/90.

— Jordan Petroleum Refinery, TN: 4/90, supply, erection and commissioning of a skid mounted sulphur recovery unit, TD: JD 300, SB: 17/10/90.

— Royal Scientific Society, TN: 60/90, supply of ribbons for NCR 646 printers, TD: JD 5, BB: 10 % SB 23/6/90.

— Public Security Dept., construction of a duct in Aqaba, TD JD10, SB: 24/6/90.

## Commercial Union launches its first UCITS

COMMERCIAL UNION announced the launch of its first international investment product, the Commercial Union Privilege Portfolio, with 18 sub-funds covering equity and currency markets around the world.

The Luxembourg-based UCITS umbrella fund will be available from 1st June 1990 and offers investors in the Middle East, the Far East and Europe, access to a wide range of investment markets within a single product.

Tony Wyand, executive director, Commercial Union Group said: "We are the largest UK insurer in continental Europe; the introduction of the Privilege Portfolio will enable investors to benefit from our international expertise and distribution channels.

Commercial Union has plans for a further 18 funds.

Turkey struggling to fully liberalise its economy  
New incentives to woo foreign investors

PRESIDENT TURGUT Ozal would like to be the man who elevates Turkey's status to a member of the European Community (EC).

But the country is hard-pressed to attain the kind of economy needed to stand alongside the nations that will form a united economic front in 1992.

Ozal and his ruling Motherland Party (ANAP) have failed to hold down an inflation rate which has averaged 70 per cent over the past two years. This feature of the Turkish economy has stirred criticism from both the EC and the World Bank.

The World Bank recently delivered a sharp warning to Ankara about its poor inflation control and budget deficit. The multilateral lending institution indicated that it would withhold a \$400 million loan package to be used in restructuring the Turkish financial sector unless progress is made on both accounts.

In January, the Bank held on to the package until Turkey carried out certain financial reforms. According to a Turkish diplomat, his government is doing its best to combat an inflation rate which he says currently rests at 60 per cent. The official also said that the Ozal government hopes to reduce the rate by 30 per cent over the next three years and that inflation is on a reverse trend. But observers say the inflation rate will continue to fluctuate between the 60 per cent-80 per cent range.

The government's 1990 inflation target is 43 per cent, but that goal seems unrealistic given the pace of the budget deficit. This year's deficit is projected to go beyond the original target of \$10.1 billion and reach \$25.5 billion.

Turkey is also facing an internal borrowing squeeze. The Parliament (Grand National Assembly) is also facing a major problem of revenue. Companies like Turk Hava Yolları (THY-Turkish Airlines) and the Turkish Iron and Steelworks Administration have made gains through management modifications and new investment. But Turkish Railways and Turkish Hard Coal are examples of the 28 separate corporations and 16 affiliates who are still entangled in financial nets.

Furthermore, SEBs continue to be a major factor behind the spiraling inflation because of the more than 100 per cent increase in most wages and farm support prices last year.

As the OECD's poorest member, Turkey was yet able to lure in OECD financial backing because of its strategic location during a time of East-West tension in 1980. The support followed the adoption of a structural adjustment package, reflecting Turkey's willingness to pursue the OECD's economic line.

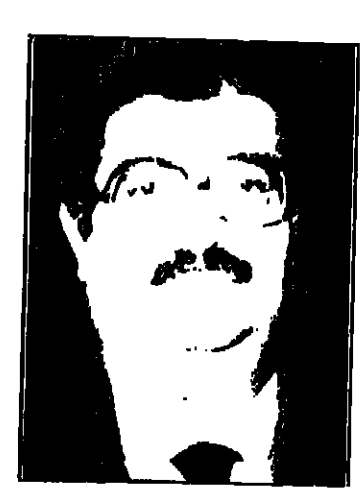
The organisation said that cutting the public borrowing requirement, which amounted to 6.5 per cent of Turkey's gross national product (GNP) in 1988, is the only remedy for the economy. It also urged the country's Central Bank to adopt a more independent stance and assume a greater role in the battle against inflation.

President Ozal will also have to revitalise the privatisation programme as part of the effort to liberalise the economy. The programme, which was launched in the early 1980s by the centre-right party and the then-prime minister, was presented as the backbone of Turkey's free-market policies.

Private ownership was encouraged to cut down state economic enterprises (SEEs), which made up more than 50 per cent of fixed productive assets and produced most domestic raw materials. Yet SEEs were inefficient, poorly-managed, industrial giants.

The new agenda proposed to expand capital markets through public share ownership. Authorities were also betting on foreign investments as a major supplier of revenue. Companies like Turk Hava Yolları (THY-Turkish Airlines) and the Turkish Iron and Steelworks Administration have made gains through management modifications and new investment. But Turkish Railways and Turkish Hard Coal are examples of the 28 separate corporations and 16 affiliates who are still entangled in financial nets.

Furthermore, SEBs continue to be a major factor behind the spiraling inflation because of the more than 100 per cent increase in most wages and farm support prices last year.



country's rampant inflation.

The government targeted its first substantial sale of stocks at March of 1988. But stock prices took a plunge in the fall of 1987, throwing shares in the telecommunications joint-venture, Telcel, into a sluggish market. A depressed stock market in 1988 encouraged the government to focus its hopes on sales of block shares to foreign companies with the cash to back them up.

Ozal also turned to delayed public offerings. Major percentages of foreign-owned companies were ultimately presented to the public. In 1989, several companies were sold this way.

The Istanbul Stock Market (IKMB) has taken a turn for the better. Last year, it was the world's fastest growing equity market with a share index that climbed by more than 1000 per cent, according to a survey conducted by the International Finance Corp., a branch of the World Bank. The IFC also said that Turkey's stock market gained by 300 per cent in 1989.

Daily trading values increased sharply to \$30 million in February, as compared to \$85,000 in 1989. Cheap share prices were one of the prime incentives for foreign investors.

Turkey's reform of the Foreign Investment Code is one prominent reason for the booming stock market. The government liberalised the code last fall when it announced that foreigners would be guaranteed full repatriation and profits.

In April, Turkey's cabinet approved two investment packages by foreign car makers. Toyota and Peugeot have been given the green light for projects worth \$650 million. Haci Omer Sabanci Holding will be the local partner who will assemble 100,000 commercial vehicles per year.

On the European front, Turkey is trying to take advantage of recent events in Eastern Europe to boost its exports. The country is considering \$300 million in new credit lines to Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Romania in the first half of 1990. Turkey's exports to Eastern Europe climbed to \$1.1 billion in 1989 from \$830.8 million in 1988. Meanwhile, imports rose to \$1.6 billion in 1989 from \$1.2 billion the previous year.

This year, \$350 million worth of Turkey's Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) credits will most likely be used to finance about 11 Turkish construction projects in the Soviet Union. The USSR is Turkey's largest Eastern Europe trade partner with \$1.3 billion in bilateral trade in 1989. Romania and Poland trail, with \$290.5 million and \$169.5 million respectively.

The country has tried to push Turkish products forward by providing state credit support for exporters. Eximbank has expanded its services to include medium-term bilateral credit lines, insurance and a new project-based credit system for firms with exports exceeding \$100 million. The companies, called Foreign Trade Corporate Companies (FTCCs), currently number 20. They are given a 5 per cent premium on exports over \$100 million.

Last year, \$68 billion in exports were financed by the new service. Eximbank supplied credit lines worth \$300 million to the Soviet Union as a 30 per cent cash segment of dues toward imports of Soviet natural gas.

Eximbank has also directed its lines of credit to other parts of the Middle East. In December, the bank extended \$100 million in credit to Algeria. Further-

more, Turkey will offer credits to Iran and Iraq worth \$800 million. They will be divided between exports and contractor guarantees and will most likely be signed this summer. Eximbank has also started a counter guarantee programme for contractor financing in Libya.

Despite the fact that the bank is expected to back another \$2 billion - \$3 billion in exports over the short term, Turkish traders still miss the days of tax rebate incentives. They also say that the new export support policies cannot make up for the losses suffered when incentives were removed under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The removal of tax incentives and subsidies to exporters coupled with an appreciation of the Turkish lira against major foreign currencies drove down exports in 1989. They fell from \$11.6 billion in 1988 to \$11.5 billion the following year. Turkey is experiencing a decline in export growth for the first time in the 1980s.

At the same time the GNP growth rate dropped to 1.7 per cent in 1989, compared to a rate of 3.4 per cent the previous year.

The country is still feeling the crunch of last year's drought. According to experts, last year's summer was the driest in half a century. The wheat crop, which averages 14 million tons in an average year, is not expected to exceed 13 million tons. Economic growth will not go much beyond 3 per cent to 4 per cent from the 1.1 per cent rise in GNP brought on by last year's drought. Agricultural output contracted by 10 per cent in 1989, as compared to 7 per cent in 1988.

Turkey will also have to look for ways of improving its performance in the trade arena. Last December, Turkish officials announced that the country's foreign debt had reached \$41.21 billion. The foreign debt currently accounts for 51.6 per cent of the annual GNP.



## Our Say

### Closer to war

NEWS REPORTS on Wednesday were predicting a US administration announcement to "suspend" its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). If these reports were confirmed, then the US would have dealt a severe blow to the peace process—one from which the area may never recover. There is already talk of a possible war in the region if the current wave of Soviet Jewish immigration is not halted until the future of the occupied territories is settled through peace negotiations.

One would have expected a positive action by the United States government in the aftermath of recent negative developments in the region. We were surprised when the US Secretary of State Mr James Baker, came out strongly against the intransigent Israeli attitudes last week—although the White House retracted these statements later on.

But now it looks as if pressures on the Bush administration have succeeded in pushing aside all prospects of peace making in the region. What are left with? There is talk of serious military confrontations encouraged by a right-wing Israeli government which is determined to pursue an aggressive policy of expansionism in the region. Prime Minister Shamir promised to "crush" the Palestinian Intifada, and many believe he will approve stronger measures to be adopted by Israeli troops in the occupied territories.

If the United States chooses to terminate its dialogue with the PLO, we believe it will have to consider the effects this decision will have on its relations with the Arab world. We have seen an increased frustration with US policies in this region and this latest move may sour US-Arab relations for a long time to come.

On the other hand, the US move will strengthen hard-liners on both sides of the fence. It will be considered a victory for Israel's radicals and Shamir's government, but will also weaken the moderates in the Arab world, who have been working for the last 18 months to bring about a change within the PLO. The Arab hard-liners will now make a strong case—one which the average Arab may respond to—against America's role in the region. But more seriously a termination of PLO-US dialogue will also bring the antagonists in the Arab-Israeli conflict closer to confrontation and away from any modest breakthrough in the peace process.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A Western view of heresy

To the editor:

ON MY return flight to Cyprus after having spent a few days marveling at the major sights of Jordan, I read your English-language newspaper. In The Star (No. 19) I read Ali A. Mazrui's "Analysis of the Satanic Verses" which states that "Mazrui was able to refute Rushdie's blasphemous accusations... through sensible discussion that appeals to the Western mind."

Mr Mazrui cites several examples equivalent to Rushdie's "blasphemous insults" to Islam which, if they befell Christianity (e.g., Jesus and the Virgin Mary) would allegedly infuriate Christians and warrant similar punishment against the culprits as the "sentence" against Mr Rushdie.

But, Mr Mazrui, the Bible, God, Jesus, the disciples and apostles, the Holy Virgin, have already been insulted and blasphemed over and over again. Remember the uproar over the musical "Jesus Christ Superstar"? And more recently, the public outcry against the film "Last Temptation of Christ"? Many biblical characters have been the subject of lewd comic strips and pornographic cartoons. In my country an "artist" has tried for a great many years to make a movie about the sexlife of Jesus, which brought protests from around the world, but with the backing of the courts, he is currently in the process of making it. The same "artist" has depicted God in a painting as a piece of snot in one corner of the canvas, which caused a Lebanese (Christian) student residing in Denmark to attack him.

What I am trying to say is that despite the lack of demonstratives in our worshipping (particularly in the Protestant Church, to which I belong) — have such faith in God that we leave it to Him to decide when He has had enough, when the insults and the blasphemy become too gross. And we know that He will put a stop to it Himself! The Western mentality and Christian faith are more along the line of "forgive him, for he does not know what he is doing." I think everyone is aware that when God becomes sufficiently angry it is indeed an omnipotent rage.

I don't believe it is up to man to get offended and insulted on God's behalf and to dole out punishment accordingly. I believe God is capable of handling everything — be it punishment or reward — Himself.

H. Niebe  
Copenhagen, Denmark

—Poor guy. Since he announced the White House telephone number he has been sitting by the phone expecting Shamir to call



## The View from Canada

### Liberal candidate backs off proposal for Canadian aid to Israel

By John Dirlik

LIBERAL MEMBER of Canadian Parliament Paul Martin, a contender for the leadership of his party in this year's elections, declared to a B'nai B'rith gathering in Montreal that Canadians have a financial responsibility to help Israel absorb the recent influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

Martin's remarks caused concern among various Arab groups because the opposition Liberal Party, gaining in popularity, is widely expected to form the next government.

In what even the Canadian Jewish News described as an "attempt to woo the Jewish vote," the MP from Quebec said Ottawa must "morally and materially" help Israel as part of the West's "irrevocable" commitment to the "sanctity" of the Jewish state.

Arab organisations argued that Martin's concern for the plight of Soviet Jews should not be at the expense of Palestinians or Canadian taxpayers. The Ottawa chapter of the Association of Palestinian-Arab-Canadians issued a statement saying that Canada should urge the Soviet Union to grant basic rights to its citizens "instead of uprooting, displacing and encouraging them to emigrate."

The National Council on Canadian-Arab Relations, a lobby group headed by former Liberal MP Ian Watson, called Martin's remarks "appalling inappropriate and demanded clarification of his proposed aid."

Martin subsequently toned down his remarks, saying that he only favoured "modest" Canadian assistance, provided it was not used to settle Jews on lands captured during the 1967 war. "I think that any Canadian aid must be conditional on no settlements in the occupied territories," he said.

### Arafat urged to modify covenant

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark met unofficially with Yasser Arafat in Lusaka, Zambia as the two awaited recently released ANC leader Nelson Mandela's arrival.

In the brief exchange of words, Clark asked Arafat to press for the withdrawal of article 19 of the PLO covenant, which calls for the elimination of the "Zionist entity."

Clark told parliament on his return that he "took the opportunity to speak to him (Arafat) briefly to encourage the PLO to continue the course of moderation that it

has demonstrated in the Middle East."

Simon Kahn, a spokesman for the Canada-Israel Committee, said Canadian Jewish organisations were pleased Clark conveyed to Arafat Ottawa's concern over the "serious obstacle to peace represented by the PLO charter." Kahn said, however, that the chance encounter in Zambia was different from a formal meeting, which his lobby group would regard "with grave concern."

Less pleased was a coalition of Arab groups who criticised Clark for placing the onus on the Palestinian leadership to moderate a position Arafat has already declared *caduc* (null and void) while ignoring Israel's ongoing refusal to accept negotiations for a peaceful settlement based on UN resolutions 242 and 338.

The coalition called on the government of Canada to put into practice its alleged balanced approach by inviting Arafat to Ottawa on an official visit.

### Israeli author asks Canadian Jews to criticise Israel

Canadian Jews were chided by Israeli author David Grossman for being a "monolithic voice" supporting even the more extreme policies of Israel. The best-selling author of a recently published, widely read book on the Israeli-Palestinian problem, *Yellow Wind*, urged his mainly Jewish audience in Montreal to be more forceful in criticising current Israeli actions detrimental to the future of Jews throughout the Middle East. "By not voicing your opinions, by your silence, you are supporting the status quo," he charged.

Grossman said he understood the reluctance of many to publicly condemn Israel, "but I'm here to say that you can criticise. I'm even willing to take the risk of the finances to Israel being cut."

The Canadian government does not provide any financial assistance to Israel but private contributions from Jewish donors in Canada are among the highest per capita in the world.

Although his views were repeatedly opposed during his lecture, surprisingly co-sponsored by the Israeli Consulate, Grossman concluded with one final challenge: "You have to ask yourself what is your main goal in supporting Israel: to continue financing it or to find a peaceful solution?"

John Dirlik, a free-lance writer from Montreal, writes on Canadian and Middle East Affairs.

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The Star

## It's time for Congress to support US government policy on Jerusalem

By George Moses

THE US HOUSE and Senate recently passed resolutions stating that "Jerusalem is and should remain the capital of the state of Israel." The resolutions also asserted, against the huge weight of demonstrable fact, that "persons of all religious faiths have been guaranteed full access to holy sites within the city." These resolutions thus quickly became one of the most destructive developments in Middle East politics since the taking of the last hostage. Motivated by domestic political expediency, these votes had the effect of a bomb thrown into the middle of an international peace march.

Proponents of the resolutions raised the red herring of a threat to the right of Jews to live in Jerusalem. They accused the US president of casting doubt on that principle. In fact, he did no such thing. The question at issue here is not whether Jews have a right to live in Jerusalem, but whether Israel will treat all residents of the city, Christian, Muslim and Jewish, equally. The use of Israeli (and, therefore, US) government funds to give preference to Jews in Jerusalem at the expense of the other religious communities does not give comfort on that score.

### Practice makes perfect

In a private conversation, one US government official recently dismissed the notion that it is long-term Israeli policy to eliminate any but Jews from residence in Jerusalem. He then went on to describe Israeli practices which are designed to reach precisely this goal. For example, any Israeli with the money and the inclination to do so may buy land in and around New York, and many have. Americans, however, may not make similar purchases in Jerusalem unless they are Jewish. Make no mistake: what happened at St. John's Hospice, where Jewish "settlers" used Israeli government funds laundered through a Panamanian company to lease a multi-family residence in the Christian Quarter of the city, was official Israeli policy in action. It is contrary both to the policies and the interests of the United States and the world community.

The fact is, most congressmen and senators voted for the resolution merely as a conflict between their Jewish and non-Jewish constituents? Obviously not, yet many members of Congress act as though their Christian constituents don't read or don't care.

Unfortunately, Congressman Michel's description of the value of the resolutions was not wholly accurate. While it is true that such resolutions are non-binding in the legal sense, they are taken quite seriously around the world as an expression of official American attitudes. They place the US government and American citizens on the defensive, both with Muslim and

As a sop to one-issue Jewish voters it may indeed have worked well. But it then invites Christian and Muslim Americans, whose co-religionists are systematically being excluded from Jerusalem under the policies this resolution supports, to respond in kind. If Congress wants to continue mixing highly emotional international religious issues into down-home domestic politics, eventually their Christian and Muslim constituents will insist on congressional support for their rights in Jerusalem.

Conflict between their Jewish and non-Jewish constituents? Obviously not, yet many members of Congress act as though their Christian constituents don't read or don't care.

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## The truth about Israel seeps through

By Joseph Sobran

WASHINGTON — People sometimes ask me why I'm so critical of Israel, as if I should be devoting more of my attention to Sri Lanka, or perhaps Zaire. But the question is always a little nervous, as it wouldn't be if I were writing equally often about Sri Lanka or Zaire.

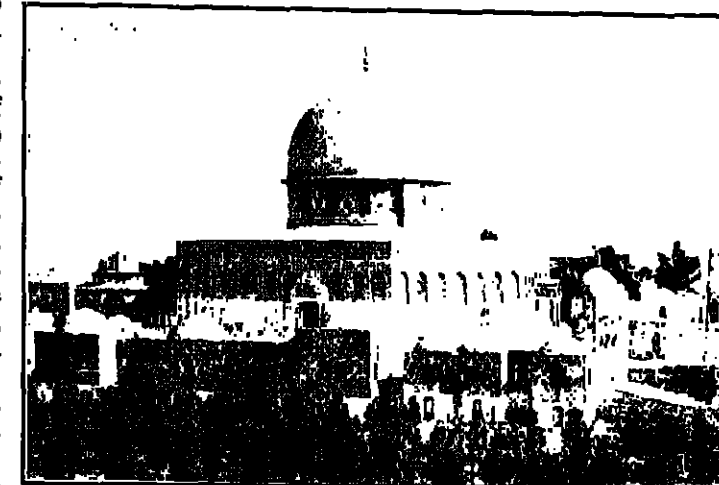
I could understand this curiosity if some other small, remote country were one of the world's four or five military powers; if it received a quarter of our foreign aid; if it were constantly on our front pages; and if its sympathisers regularly occupied much of the op-ed space of The New York Times and other major newspapers. But there is only one country of whom these things are true, and that is Israel.

Nobody thinks it's odd that there should be 20 columnists who are apologists for Israel; but apparently it is unfathomable that there should be one or two who are critical of Israel.

But there's another reason that is both personal and professional. Israel has a very powerful lobby in this country, with a highly accomplished propaganda corps. And that lobby is not content with making the case for Israel and putting fear into nearly all the politicians in Washington, who are supposed to be representing the interests of the United States. It also tries to shut up opposition in the free press.

I have felt its pressure. So have Rowland Evans and Robert Novak. So has Patrick Buchanan. And so have a great many newspaper editors. We still hear of the fear engendered by Joe McCarthy. But people talked freely about that fear even at the height of McCarthy's career. I believe that someday, historians will

Continued on page 14



Christian countries throughout the world. They also undercut the efforts of Christians to defend their rights in Jerusalem.

These, of course, were precisely the purposes of the interests in Washington and Israel who perpetrated this travesty. They seek to perpetuate Israel as "America's only reliable ally in the Middle East" by undermining American ties with all of its other friends and allies in the region. They couldn't care less about the side effect of focusing the contempt of our NATO allies on the heedless congressional kowtowing to what is seen in Europe as an almost omnipotent American Jewish lobby.

What is needed now to correct the effect of these resolutions is a new resolution in defense of the rights of all residents of Jerusalem, regardless of religion, which accurately defines both the feelings of the American people and the policy of the United States.

### Restating the US position

This resolution would restate the American positions which were so badly clouded by the recent actions of the House and Senate: that Jerusalem should be an international city, open to people of all religions for any peaceful purpose; that Jerusalem as a city should be undivided; and that, in recognition of its importance to the three major religions of the world, its final status should be determined by negotiations among all those who have interests there.

The fact that no such resolution has even been proposed is being interpreted, in the US and abroad, as a sign that the American Christian community is too divided and enervated to defend itself politically; or that it doesn't care that much about Jerusalem, seeing it more as a sort of religious museum than a relevant component of 20th-century Christianity. So far, that community hasn't made much of an answer.

For its part, the American Muslim community, although growing, and outraged at Israeli treatment of Muslims and Islamic holy places in Jerusalem, has yet to acquire or use the kind of political savvy that would allow it to make an effective response to this attack on its rights. The fact is, most congressmen probably agree more with existing US policy than with the contrary resolutions they have just approved. But nobody has asked them to vote for existing policy.

A new resolution that Jerusalem remain an undivided city whose final status is to be determined in the international negotiations that bring peace to the entire Holy Land will not happen by the political equivalent of spontaneous combustion. It must be proposed and pushed by a national coalition of American Christians, Muslims, Jews and others who believe in the freedom of peaceful expression, are dedicated to the proposition of religious freedom in Jerusalem and who are led by the most senior of the ecclesiastical and lay members. If such a coalition commits itself to working with senators and representatives across the nation, it can return Congress to the support of the principle of Jerusalem as the common heritage of all people of good will, and break the power of those who seek to transform that unique city into the sole possession of one country.

George Moses, a former president of the National Association of Arab Americans, is a legislative consultant in Washington, DC.

## VIEW POINT

### BY YACOB JABER

### An Arab Response

THE STATEMENTS made recently by US Secretary of State James Baker reflecting his frustration with Israel's lack of response to peace efforts have pleased Arab circles which thought that the statements may herald a new responsible US attitude towards the Middle East. But these circles were soon disappointed by the retraction of Baker's statements by the White House spokesman who tended to blame all the "parties" to the conflict for failure to make progress in the peace process. It was obvious that President Bush's or administration has succumbed once again to the pressure of the Jewish lobby in Washington and opted for a conciliatory tone with Israel's new hard-line government.

Israel's response to Baker's criticism was sharp and uncompromising. An official in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office gave the premier's telephone number inviting Arab leaders to call up Shamir once they decide that they want peace, as if the Arabs are occupying Israeli lands and denying self-determination for the Jewish people.

Now it is the Arabs' turn to respond effectively to the US administration's retraction of Baker's statements and Israel's persistent refusal to admit that peace can be reached through withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

The most effective response lies in the immediate implementation of the resolutions of the extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad last month. The summit has been described as a success, but its resolutions have so far not been put into effect.

To begin with, the financial support promised by Arab countries to be given to Jordan must arrive as early as possible to spare this country any future social and political turmoil and maintain its stability and security and enable it to stand strong and firm at the longest confrontation line with Israel. Needless to say that Jordan is the gateway to the rest of the Arab world and its collapse entails the fall of the entire Arab nation.

Utmost Arab support must also be provided for the Palestinian Intifada so that it could escalate into an all-out revolt against the Israeli occupation. Palestinians in the occupied territories need to be enabled to step up their resistance by providing them with all means of dignified living and rendering them capable of quitting their jobs in Israel.

It is also high time for Arab states to deal with foreign governments in accordance with their attitudes and policies towards the Palestinian cause and the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is specially important to put their principle into effect with regard to the countries that facilitate the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and finance their settlement in the occupied Arab territories.

The Arab response to the US vacillation and Israel's growing extremism must not be delayed any more.

Handwritten note in Arabic script: "هذا هو الموقف العربي" (This is the Arab position)



DEVELOPMENT  
BRIEFSYemen  
expands health  
care

THE REPUBLIC of Yemen will expand the coverage and quality of health care services through a project to be partly financed by a credit of SDR 11.7 million (\$15 million) from International Development Association (IDA).

Yemen is able to provide basic health care to only four of every 10 of its people. Nationwide expansion of health care is hampered by an acute shortage of health personnel — primarily nurses and midwives — and by weak regional health care administration.

The project includes training about 600 people in administrative and support services such as personnel administration, accounting, computer and statistics skills in the country's 11 governorates. The project further includes constructing nine maintenance workshops for biomedical equipment and nine pharmaceutical storage facilities. Three regional nursing and midwifery institutes will be constructed in the cities of Dhamar,

Ibb and Sa'ada. The Central Health Manpower Institute in Sana'a will be expanded with the construction of additional classrooms and three laboratories for environmental health, midwifery and pharmaceutical sciences. Technical assistance will be provided to strengthen Al Thawra hospital in Sana'a as a national centre for health management.

Tunisia  
strengthens  
agricultural  
extension and  
research

TUNISIA IS launching the first phase of a programme to improve agricultural extension and research. The World Bank is supporting the programme with a \$17 million loan.

The five-year programme will result in increased agricultural production nationwide through upgrading and strengthening of extension services in 15 regions. Under the programme, which includes a pilot effort to provide adequate extension services to



women in rural areas, an increased number of farmers will gain access to new agricultural technologies.

The programme aims to increase production of cereals, meats, pulses, olives, fruits and vegetables, and to improve research in forestry, soil and water conservation, irrigation and use of water and farm machinery.

The programme will improve the management and structure of Tunisia's agricultural research and extension system to make it more responsive to farmers' needs. Three regional research centres will be established, and

eight experimental stations and 550 local extension centres will be strengthened. Training, fellowships and technical assistance will be provided to research and extension staff.

Algeria  
restructures  
key industrial  
enterprises

VIALE PUBLIC enterprises in Algeria will gain greater access to necessary technical and financial resources through an industrial restructuring project that is being supported by the World Bank with five loans totalling \$99.5 million.

The loan beneficiaries are the Algerian government, three industrial companies — Enterprise Nationale de Boulonnerie-Coutellerie-Robinetterie (BCR), a manufacturer of nuts, bolts, taps and valves; Enterprise Nationale d'Emballage Metalliques (ENEM), a metal container manufacturer; and Enterprise Nationale de Produits Metalliques Utilitaires (PROMETAL), which specialises in metal appliances — and a data-processing and management consulting company, Enterprise Nationale d'Organisation et d'Information (ENORI).

The project will help the three industrial enterprises define their medium- and long-term corporate strategies; identify inefficiencies in management, pricing, production and technology; and define and carry out actions and investments to implement their strategies within the framework of a detailed restructuring plan.

Like many Algerian industrial enterprises, ENEM and BCR (and to a lesser degree PROMETAL) have suffered losses over the past few years as a result of government-controlled pricing, an almost exclusive reliance on borrowing to finance investments, and inefficiency.

The companies are expected to become financially sustainable and competitive through improved management systems, increased responsiveness to market factors and more prudent investment planning. The training of local consultants is expected to lead to the creation of more flexible and responsive consulting firms and the development of a dynamic and competitive private service sector.

## Insight

Dr. Nabil Al-Sharif

Deterring  
extremism

THE DECISION of the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to intervene militarily in the case of an Israeli aggression on any Arab country should be understood within the framework of introducing a factor of deterrence to Israel's rising intransigence and militancy. We should also bear in mind that this uplifting statement of President Saddam came in the wake of implicit and explicit Israeli statements hinting at expansion and provocation.

Western circles will likely continue in their short-sighted, biased approach, and will fail to see Israel's continued brutalisation and daily abuse of the Arab population in the occupied territories. They will overlook the fact that our children are teargassed in their schools. They will not mention Israel's long arm of aggression that has reached Iraq and Tunisia, not to mention Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. They will only see the statements of dignity and self-defence that President Hussein made public earlier this week, thus expressing the noblest feelings of pride and dignity in the deepest corners of the hearts of all Arabs.

The Western circles will also continue to overlook the fact that President Hussein's statements are, first and foremost, conditional. Iraq will only respond to an Israeli aggression not only against Iraq, but also against any Arab country stretching from Mauritania to Syria. Let Israel, in other words, confine itself to the option of peace and co-existence and it would not have to worry about an Arab initiation of attack. But, if Israel is still relying on the old mentality of dictating its terms by force on the Arabs, then President Hussein's statements are only inviting the Israelis to think again before committing a catastrophic blunder. The Arabs will no longer accept to be the only ones to bear the brunt of intransigence and extremism.

President Hussein's statements should, if they are objectively understood, contribute to establishing a situation of stability in the region, and should help save all the people in this area the agonies of war that Israel's trigger-happy leadership of the extreme right is likely to bring about.

21 JUNE 1990

## Shamir: 'Arabs have absolutely no need to fear Israel'

Editor's note: One week after he formed his right-wing Likud-led government, Yitzhak Shamir was interviewed by Israeli newspaper The Jerusalem Post. Following are excerpts:

Q: How will this government act differently from the previous one vis-a-vis various issues, such as the Intifada? Will there be new settlements in the territories? Will it strengthen the existing ones?

A: Generally speaking, the overall approach will be the same. As far as the Intifada is concerned, there may be more emphasis on protecting the settlers in Judea and Samaria, because the population there is suffering. It's true that the army makes every possible effort to prevent this suffering but the new government may increase efforts in this direction. A wave of new settlements is not anticipated. Everything that was stated in the basic guidelines of the last national unity government will more or less apply to this government. The emphasis will be on... strengthening of the now-existing settlements. There must be some development; no settlements can mark time. There is no one who now believes that preference should be given to new settlements.

Q: There are those in Israel and in the region who say if there is no progress towards peace in the Middle East, the situation will deteriorate into war. Do you agree?

A: Such calls in the Arab world are cyclical. After an interval of relative quiet, voices of war and aggression again begin to be heard in the Arab world. This time it's Iraq, after it has become free of the burden of its war with Iran, in which it sees itself a victor. They have returned to their basic line, after being dormant for the eight years in which they were fighting Iran. In addition, particular attention must be paid to the fact that the aggressive intentions — their aggressive thoughts and intentions towards Israel — begin to surface in the Arab world as soon as they see cracks or breaches in the wall of friendship between Israel and the United States.

It is only natural, therefore, that the Arabs convince themselves that the United States is backing Israel, and the liquidation of Israel is an absurd notion. They never say that this is because of Israel's power — they would never admit that — but because the strongest superpower in the world is behind Israel.

The Arabs, including the PLO as I said before, are also being encouraged by Europe's position which has with time, I would say, become more hostile towards Israel's positions; and this encourages hostile trends as well. There are those in the Arab world who believe they can today take the liberty of attacking Israel, without any outside power intervening. I don't believe that this has any connection with what is called the peace process.

because the extremism that I mentioned actually prevents any chance for peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab world to reach any realistic solution. The Arab's predisposition to exaggerate also leads to mounting Arab demands. Nowadays, when anyone in the Arab world speaks about negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries, he no longer has in mind the Camp David Accords. What he's

thinking about is a Palestinian state.

What Israel can and wants to do for promoting the peace process does not transcend the Camp David Accords. Till now, this framework has been the binding one. It obligates us and we believe it can be realised.

Q: What will Israel do if Jordan finds itself in a situation where its survival is at risk?

A: We have no aggressive intentions towards Jordan. We sometimes find it difficult to believe all this talk in Jordan about Israel cherishing a dream of attacking Jordan and of liquidating the Kingdom of Jordan. Israel is far removed from nurturing any thoughts of attacking any Arab country, even the most hostile. There's no need to do that. We want to live in peace.

"...a dialogue between Israel and Arab representatives of Judea, Samaria and Gaza cannot succeed without prior agreement between the parties that the goal is to advance within the framework of the Camp David Accords — that is, autonomy" — Shamir

Q: A second source of concern in the Arab world is Gorbachev's warning concerning the settlement of Soviet immigrants in the occupied territories. You have often reiterated that there is no policy of settling immigrants in the territories and less than one per cent have chosen to live there. But if the life of up to a million Jews is in the balance, perhaps it would be best to say that those few people who settle in the territories will not be subsidised.

A: We know that this is only an excuse. To the contrary, some of the Arab countries are actually being frank when they state that it is immigration itself which creates the danger of war in the region. And why is this so? Is this because of the immigrants settling in the territories? We believe that if the Soviet Union is indeed interested in peace in the region, it should tell the Arab states: Stop these artificial

outries, the hysteria that you generate by declaring that immigration leads to war. What kind of nonsense is that? Is the fact that a few hundred people are settling in the territories a cause for war? Why should we make such a declaration? No one would believe us in any event, even if we did make such a declaration. Everyone knows the truth of the matter. There is a Soviet mission in Israel. Any one

tence.

I am surprised that in Europe and in the US (nothing is being done) to clarify this to the Arabs. They want to appear as "moderates." Where do you see Arab moderation?

Where is the media in Europe and America? Why don't they launch a strong attack against this — what I would even term barbaric — warfare?

Q: Some claim that after this wave of immigration, Israel won't be interested in making peace with the Palestinians.

A: Today everyone knows that a weak Israel won't come to any settlement with them. Only a strong and confident Israel will be able to make peace agreements with the Arab world.

Q: Why did you halt the peace process in March? Were you opposed?

A: There's nothing to discuss with those among the Palestinian Arabs who are opposed to autonomy. There's nothing to discuss with them. That's to begin with. Second, we must take into consideration that Israel will not talk with the PLO, because among other reasons they are opposed to autonomy and the Camp David agreement. Third, but no less important, it is impossible to conceive that we could reach any sort of serious understanding between us and the Palestinian sector without further understanding and progress in the relations between Israel and the Arab states.

After all, peace is diametrically opposed to war. And if one talks about removing the danger of war, the reference is first and foremost to the Arab countries. For who can wage war? States with armies and weapons. All these terrorist organisations are incapable of waging war. That is why our actions must be simultaneously directed — as set forth in our peace initiative — towards dealing with the Arab states and improving our relations with them, as well as at dealing with our local conflict, including the differences of opinion and interest between us and the Arab population of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. This must be a comprehensive effort that encompasses all those spheres in the Arab world.

Q: You are now leading the fifth government within the past seven years. Doesn't this signify instability?

A: The president (of Israel) thinks there have been too many governments. But not all these governments were the result of political crises. For example, Begin quit for strictly personal reasons. One (1986) was due to the rotation agreement and another (1988) was the result of regular elections. Actually only two governments were due to other reasons.

Q: But aren't you ignoring the fact that from September 1989 to March 1990 there were intensive, daily consultations between the US and Israel on an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue

to take a course in which we believe. I would say, therefore, this plan — this initiative — is a good one. However, there must be ongoing and serious consultations between us and the US regarding its implementation. These consultations need not include each individual step, but there must be general agreement on a series of steps. Only such mutual understanding can prepare the ground for co-operation. I understand America's desire to help us implement the peace initiative. I am grateful to them and at the same time I understand that they are interested in maintaining good relations with the Arab world. But they can't take these steps (the Cairo talks) without having a full understanding with Israel.

Q: But aren't you ignoring the fact that from September 1989 to March 1990 there were intensive, daily consultations between the US and Israel on an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue

## The truth about Israel seeps through

Continued from page 13

look back with far more wonder about the quieter and more paralyzing fear engendered in our own era by domestic Zionist power. The press was never afraid of McCarthy; it is very much afraid of Israel's American sympathisers.

One result is that the news we get from Israel is heavily self-censored and bowdlerized. The average American thinks of Israel as a "democratic" country whose domestic troubles are due

to unruly Arabs. Not one American Christian in a hundred realises that if he lived in Israel, he would be the victim of official discrimination — forced, like the Soviet Jew, to carry an identification card effectively stigmatising him.

If Israeli propaganda were true, there would be no need to quash or intimidate critics. The very act of trying to silence opposition is a kind of confession in itself. Ring Lardner said it well: "Shut up," he explained.

Is there no case to be made for

Israel? Of course there is. At times I have made it myself. I would make it again — if Israel had not become a threat to freedom of speech and ethical debate in this country.

But when you risk injury to your career in the United States by defending the interests of the United States, something is seriously wrong. A proper parallel is not with Joe McCarthy, who at least was trying to uphold America's position, but with the publishing industry in New York during the 1930s, when a book critical of the Soviet Union stood scant chance of seeing print.

Suppression is a good tactic but a bad strategy. In the long run, the truth has a way of seeping through. No matter how many clever excuses you make for a Yitzhak Shamir, it's not a terribly good idea to have Americans identifying Israel with Yitzhak Shamir. Israel was much better off when Americans identified Israel with Abba Eban — now in political exile for his moderation.

And it isn't wise, in the long run, to make Americans afraid, in their own country, to speak their minds about a foreign country. They will eventually resent the colossal impudence of it. And the country on whose behalf the suppression was enacted will bear the consequences.

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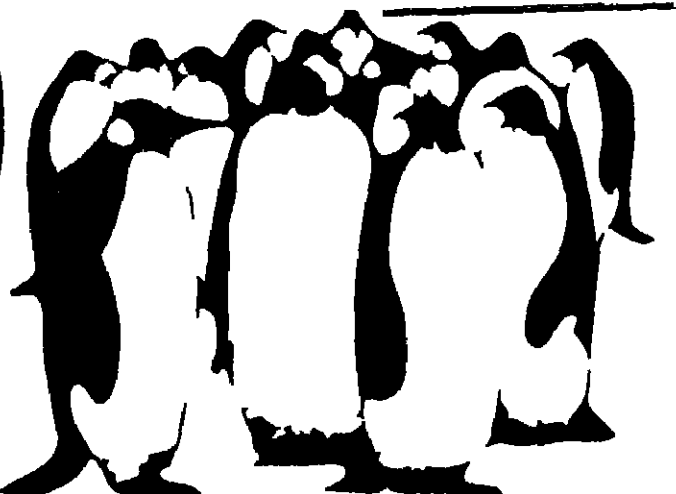
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14 THE STAR

Shamir is a



# AROUND TOWN



## Batrouni leaves her indelible marks on local theatre

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to The Star

● STAR READERS and theatre lovers here in Amman will be sad to learn that Mrs. Vanessa Batrouni, who has become well-known for her arts reviews in The Star and for her contribution to local theatre, will be leaving Jordan at the end of the month. In the ten years she has been here Mrs. Batrouni has changed the face of local English theatre from small amateur shows to sizable productions of a very professional standard. Through her work both in the theatre and as a drama teacher she has stimulated the interest of many in theatre as a serious art form.

Before coming to Jordan in 1981, Mrs. Batrouni had already gained extensive experience in the theatre. After studying drama at the Central School of Speech and Drama, London, Mrs. Batrouni performed in the West End hit musical, The Rocky Horror Show. In 1974 she left London for Vienna, Austria where she studied singing and vocal techniques under the singer William Blankenship. While in Vienna Mrs. Batrouni toured twice with the Viennas English theatre. On her return to England, she lectured for three years

at the Middlesex Polytechnic, London on singing and vocal techniques which was part of a new performance arts course.

It was not long after her arrival here in Jordan that Mrs. Batrouni turned her attention to the drama scene in Amman. Teaming up with Ginny Toukan and a handful of other theatre enthusiasts she helped form the Royal Theatre Co. (RTC) with whom in 1984 she was to direct her first musical, "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown." This lively, beautifully produced show set the tone for all that was to follow.

Fast-moving, meticulously choreographed and colourful it carried the elements that were soon to become the trademarks of a Batrouni production. It was also with this production that Mrs. Batrouni first drew the acting and singing talents together of Kay Mukhar, David Thompson and Lexi Haddadin who among them have formed the base of the many productions Mrs. Batrouni has directed over the years in Amman.

More ambitious projects followed. In 1985 Mrs. Batrouni staged "Oliver!" with its huge cast of children, followed the next year by an equally successful production of "Amie." It was that same year, 1986, that Mrs. Batrouni produced and directed the French opera, "The Medium" which although not seen by many people was quite simply a tour de force. With this she es-



established her unique ability not only to extract monumental performances from essentially inexperienced actors, but also to convey through understated drama powerful emotions. That same year, Mrs. Batrouni found time not only to turn in a hilarious performance as Mrs. Cratchit in the British Council's production of "A Christmas Carol" but also to produce and direct an energetic and sensitive version of "Oh What A Lovely War" for RTC.

Since then Mrs. Batrouni has directed many more shows and productions. In conjunction with her position as artist in residence establishing drama at the Amman Baccalaureate School she staged with her students such shows as "The Wizard of Oz," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See" among others.

She has also directed productions of "The Threepenny Opera," "The Gingerbread Man," "Kiss Me Kite" and "Alladin" for the RTC in conjunction with other institutions. With Nadim

# Scrapbook

## Sibling rivalry

LAST WEEK my two children, two and the three year old, discovered the power of money. They also found out, to their chagrin, its curse. It was on Friday morning when I woke up to my son's and daughter's screams and cries. It took some time to figure out that the interminable squabbling was all about. The girl, 3, was collecting all the loose change she could find on the kitchen table, by the television set and in my trousers' pockets. She kept the change in an empty shoe box and began to tease her little brother about the tasty and lovely things she will be able to get with the money.

Naturally, the boy did not take long to launch his first, though unsuccessful, raid against his sister in order to keep the loot. In retaliation he received a good kick in the face, but this was not to deter him. The poor maid tried to mediate between the two siblings by suggesting that they divide the money amongst themselves. This took a lot of convincing on her part before my daughter relented and handed in part of her fortune. The boy took his share and hid it in an empty perfume box.

The conflict did not end here. Now that both children had made their first capital, they naturally sought to make more money. To them the more they had of the silver and bronze coins, the more powerful their buying power could be. The girl talked about getting a new bicycle while the boy bragged about acquiring the latest in military technology; a machine gun. It was no longer the simple shopping list of the chewing gum, ice creams and chocolate bars. The couple were about to launch themselves into a hedonistic shopping spree.

Their primitive capitalist instincts led them to compare fortunes. Accordingly the boy felt he was poorer than his entrepreneurial sister who obviously had more jingles out of her little bank. A fierce conspiracy was in the making in my son's head. When he discovered that no more coins were to be found around the house, he resorted to classic imperialist adventures. Carrying out a sudden and massive attack against his unsuspecting sister, he managed to get his little hands on that precious little box — everything his sister had in the world.

It was then that I woke up to their shouting and crying. The boy was defending his corner quite bravely against volleys of pillows, old shoes and toys thrown at him by his enraged sister. It was war.

I tried to intervene forcibly in the beginning using my paternal powers, but discovered the both were so engaged in their fighting that no outside interference would have been tolerated. I called for a truce and promised to listen to their cases, which I did.

What verdict should I pronounce? It was not only a matter of an illegal possession by one party of another's property. It was more. Money, and its deadly attraction, was the real issue. It had separated between them and drove them to fight among themselves. I emptied the contents of the two coffers and told them to look. Why was this pile of metal so inviting? I asked. And then I remembered that my children were acting as adults do in our world; they fought and stole from one another because money meant power and authority.

I failed to explain all of this to my two children, but I told them that this pile of junk was not a new bicycle, a gun or even an ice cream. I suggested that I take the money and buy for them the things they liked. For a moment they looked at me suspiciously and then they agreed.

In a few minutes they forgot about their little war and were busy watching cartoons. I on the other hand was writing down a very long shopping list - the price of peace.

Ahmad Madi

Sawalha she co-directed and performed in his new play about the Lebanese poet Khalil Gibran. Her last production here in Amman was "Bronte"; a musical Mrs. Batrouni wrote herself. With this production, she fulfilled all the expectations of the many admirers of her work. Dealing with the lives of this creative family who lived a lonely and isolated existence on the North Yorkshire Moors she managed through clever and subtle humour, through sensitive and moving lyrics and through innovative choreography to convey the many different and complex attitudes and aspects of life in 18th century England. It is this play that Mrs. Batrouni hopes to stage in London on her return.

In the meantime, Mrs. Batrouni will be sorely missed by all her friends and colleagues here in Amman who have come to appreciate greatly her undoubted talent, her wisdom and her wonderful sense of humour. We wish her all the luck as she goes on to pursue her career in the British Theatre and feel sure that she will contribute as much there as she has here in Jordan.

21 JUNE 1990

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## Music Day: Anything goes

By Ahmad Humaid  
and Khalid Tabaza  
Special to The Star

TODAY THURSDAY, 21 June, is Music Day. Although Jordan joined the many nations that celebrate Music Day three years ago, this year will be the first time musical activities will actually take place. The events of today were organised by the French Cultural Centre which will present two performances of live music as well as video shows throughout the day.

The first performance will be by oud player Adel Salameh who will be performing at 6 pm. Then at 7 pm the volume will be pumped up a bit for the rock'n'roll performance of the French band 'The Magic Mushroom' and the Mechanics' who will play their original rock'n'roll tunes. The performances and video shows will take place at the French Cultural Centre in Jabal El Weibdeh.

Music Day is a global event originally started in France by the French Ministry of Culture

in 1982. Three years later the ministers of culture of the European Community (EC) decided to hold the event on an European scale. The event was then internationally adopted and is now celebrated by nations all around the world.

Music Day in France and elsewhere is a free event. Music performances by bands or individuals are held in the streets all day long and everybody is welcomed to join. The whole music spectrum is represented: from classical to jazz to rock music, anything goes.

## Rocking and Rolling on Music Day

WHAT DO mushrooms and mechanics have in common? Well, rock'n'roll music, apparently.

The Magic Mushroom and the Mechanics is a rock'n'roll band established by five young Frenchmen who live and work in Amman. The Mushroom in question here is Edouard Brault, the vocalist accompanied by the Mechanics who are Vincent Etienne on drums, Bertrand de Toustain on keyboards, Jean-Philippe Amour on lead guitar and Alain Rael on bass.

The band will hold a free concert at the French Cultural Centre on the occasion of the Music Day on Thursday, 21 June. "At this time of summer, bands are playing all over France in every



Spot the mushroom!

city and town, and we thought that it would be nice to celebrate this day here in Jordan," says Edouard.

The band plays its own English rock'n'roll songs inspired by groups like U2 and Dire Straits, "and some Jazz," says Alain, who used to be in a jazz band.

Their first concert planned on 14 June was cancelled because the band hadn't enough time to practice. Now they rehearse on evenings three days a week to get in shape for the forthcoming concert. "Rock'n'roll needs a lot of practice," says Alain. "I practice the bass four hours a day. Music brings us together and the work we put into it always has a special taste for me." ... Unlike all this disgusting electronic 'House' music which fills the charts these days. Electronic music is only good for films," interrupts Bertrand, the group's youngest member.

The band hopes that a lot of people will attend their concert. "We are amazed that the audience of rock'n'roll is such a small one in a town of one million," says Edouard, "but we hope that our concert will be a success."

across one manufacturer who makes a recycling kit to collect the old oil in for recycling. Another makes a cardboard box with a plastic liner and absorbent material to drain the oil into for disposal. Follow the instructions on how to get rid of the oil properly.

## Auto Talk

By Bob Kocher

How often do you do it? What do you do after you do it?

Yes, these questions have been on the minds of car owners for many, many years. Manufacturers of cars, oil companies, garages, racers — all have many different opinions on when to do it.

The subject, of course, is how often do you change your car's oil. Also, if you do it yourself, what do you do with the old oil when you're done? When to change the oil should be simple. Follow the car manufacturer's recommendations as to how often.

I believe your car's oil should be changed at least three or four times a year. If you drive many miles, you might change it as often as eight or ten times a year. I recommend replacing the oil filter with each oil change.

"If you do change your own oil, environmentalists are involved in telling you what to do with the old oil. They don't want you to pour the old, dirty, black oil in the gravel driveway or out behind your garage. That stuff soaks into the ground and affects the environment forever!"

I suggest you put it in some kind of container you can haul in your trunk to someone who can dispose of it properly. Some service stations and garages will take it free of charge. I have run

across one manufacturer who makes a recycling kit to collect the old oil in for recycling. Another makes a cardboard box with a plastic liner and absorbent material to drain the oil into for disposal. Follow the instructions on how to get rid of the oil properly.

Question of the Week  
■ Dear Car Bob: I promised myself that I'd keep my car looking good all of the time. How often can I wash it?  
■ If you are washing by hand, wash it whenever it's dirty. If you are taking it to a car wash with brushes, wash it once every couple of weeks in the winter and spring and once a month the rest of the year.

Signed, Car Bob

# INTERFACE

BY SAMER KURDI

## Digital Prejudice

"Hit the industrial works in sector 3B which provide ammunition to the Arab forces". Pretty heavy stuff, isn't it? This line comes from the instruction manual of a flight simulator computer game which pits you in your F29 fighter plane against the "hordes" of enemy, typically "Arab", fighter planes.

Although the above is only a scenario in that game (other scenarios are available where the enemy is Russian or Vietnamese) stereotyping in computer games exists to an alarming extent, and, by all means, doesn't seem to feel the slightest need to justify itself. To the average European or American teenager, video games probably give the impression that all yellow people are martial art experts, and, alternatively, all Arabs are terrorists... a recent chart-topping hit video game, released by a British software publishing company, has the following, typically model scenario: Arab terrorists have hijacked a DC-10 airliner and it's up to the player to single-handedly rescue them. The on-screen graphical representation of the geographical area shows the battle site... a country between Egypt and Tunisia imaginatively called "Kalubya" (?). The video game itself? Oh, it's quite good, actually, I spent hours blowing up the very well drawn Hitta-clad Arabs to smithereens.

A recent, still more offensive type of game is a so-called "Middle East Political Simulator". Essentially a strategy wargame set in the late 90's, the software, released yet again by a British software house, pits you as the sworn-in Prime Minister of Israel in a quest to, I quote, "Force the collapse of all four neighbouring governments via political destabilisation or direct military defeat". An option to change sides, which would have made the game quite acceptable in our terms (even if we don't play the Arab side), is surprisingly lacking in a strategy game of this sort.

As yet another directable information medium, computer software, just like movies, books and newspapers, can and have occasionally become an instrument of prejudice and discrimination. And considering their vast popularity (in Britain, video games are the second most popular form of entertainment after Television), and the fact that the bulk of the entertainment software buying public lies within the 8-25 age group, this is something we could do without, and indeed must do something against.

## RALLIES

### Hayat Rally takes off on Friday

AMMAN (Star) - The countdown for takeoff has begun for the Hayat National Rally. The rally will start tomorrow, Friday, at 9:00 am, from the headquarters of the Royal Automobile Club (RAC).

Organised by RAC, and sponsored by Karoline, this is the second national rally this year and the fifth stage in the 1990 Jordan Drivers Championship.

The Hayat rally will be run over relatively good quality tracks making it an ideal one for beginners. Thirteen special stages amounting to a total of 79 kilometres will make for very exciting driving as the time differences will be very small. The first leg will include the following stages: Jeezeh, Al Mahjar Al Abiad, Sbeiban, Absi, Alrabab and Lahoon, then back to Amman via the second stage including Mahjar 2, Jeezeh 2, Absi 2, Rabbah 2, Lahoon 2 and finally Madaba stages. The finish will be at the RAC headquarters at 7:00 pm and final results will be announced at 8:00 pm.

## TECHNO FACTS

BY FADI TAHA

### Light Alloy Wheels

■ WHEN MAN first rolled a stone downhill, he noticed that round rocks roll infinitely easier than their flat-sided counterparts. The concept of the wheel came into existence. The design parameters of the wheel have since been well established, and even today wheel manufacturers still come up with almost endless variations on that same basic theme.

New technologies have allowed wheel manufacturers to produce light alloy wheels like the 16 inch wheel for the Corvette that weighs only 11.5 pounds, cutting the Corvette's hefty weight dramatically, giving higher acceleration to a higher top speed at a lower rate of fuel consumption.

The improvement in performance when using these light aluminum wheels does not only result from the general weight reduction. When dealing with the weight of the wheels we are talking about a rotational weight. Rotational masses and their physics fall under the so-called fly wheel effect, so, theoretically speaking, if we add the weight saved by using light alloy wheels to the main mass of the car we would still get a better performance. In other words: If the saved weight was in the wheels they would need an additional torque to be accelerated subsequently putting a heavier load on the engine.



## 'Norma' & 'Othello' at Jerash: A pinnacle of the city's fame

THE HISTORIC city of Jerash will probably reach the pinnacle of its cultural fame in the summer of 1991 when it's south theatre will witness a production of two of the world's greatest operas, Bellini's "Norma" and Shakespeare's "Othello" by an Italian troupe.

The two operas are to be performed within 6 days through the period of 29 June to 10 July and at the time, besides oozing with culture, Jerash is also expected to host an audience of about 12000 people, more than 8000 of which will be flying in from outside Jordan for the occasion.

The event, which is the brainchild of Mr Lino Cesaria, is sponsored by the Italian Sunflower tour operators, Royal Jordanian airlines, the Marriott Hotel and the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, and is funded by a number of foreign and local investors.

In a press conference held Monday at the Marriott Hotel, Minister of Tourism, Mr Abdel Karim Kabariti stressed the significance of the performance because "it represents the start of a new phase in our strategy of combining the best of tourism, antiquities and culture to raise Jordan's profile on the international stage of special cultural events."

The General Assembly of the Surgeons Society elected a new board of directors on Friday in its annual meeting. They are: Dr Abdullah Bashir (president), Dr Ghassan Farah (vice president), Dr Ahmad Al Adwan (secretary), Dr Wael Fataher (treasurer), Dr Mohammed Fetha, Dr Mahmoud Abu Khalaf and Dr Hisham Al Thaher (members).

Amman's French School has come a long way since it first opened its doors in 1972. Then it had a mere five students who attended class at the French Embassy. Now its 180 students can enjoy the comfort of the spacious, purpose-built new premises of Amman's French School which were officially inaugurated by French Ambassador Denis Bauchard last Wednesday.

Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan, president of the National Music Conservatory Sherifa Hind Nasser and members of the diplomatic corps were among the 350 guests who enjoyed the comfort of the school's



From the press conference

The ruins of Roman domination in Jerash constitute the perfect, almost dream setting for Norma, which in turn also takes place at a time of Roman occupation (in Gaul). Opera Norma, first performed in 1831 at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan tells the story of Norma, Priestess of the God Irminsul who breaks her vows over the love of a Roman officer, then loses her sanity through her lover's betrayal, and, accepting her sin, ultimately sacrifices herself to the moon. The opera's performance in June 1991 will be its 160th anniversary.

spacious theatre until well into the evening. School President Bernard Mahoux says the new school has all facilities including proper classrooms, a library, sports facilities and service areas for its students who come from 20 different nationalities and follow the French school curriculum with the addition of Arabic language classes. Mr Mahoux says the move to the new school will also enable the school to expand its activities and he also hopes to add afternoon classes including French courses for children, handicrafts, sport and music when the new school year begins in October.

The Goldsmiths and Jewellery Association in Amman held its annual meeting at the Plaza Hotel on Sunday, 17 June. Members discussed the financial and administrative report and issues concerning the profession. A luncheon was held after the meeting.

HRH Princess Sarvath patronised Monday the graduation

The top Bulgarian artist Gheena Dimitrova is going to sing Norma and a cast of over 300 top artists will attempt to do justice to the two enormous works of art. Mr Mario Corradini, stage director of the event said he was "impressed beyond words by the acoustics of the theatre... The set needn't be touched!"

The performance is going to take place under an expected full moon, which, through its significance in 'Norma', should enhance further the beauty of the setting.

The ceremony of the 22nd batch of Al Qadisiyah College female students. The Ceremony, which was held at the Palace of Culture, was attended by Dr Khaled Al Karaki, minister of culture.

The Al Al-Bait Foundation for Islamic Civilisation Research will co-operate with Al Furqan Islamic Foundation in London to monitor Arabic and Islamic manuscripts available in the Kingdom as part of Al Furqan's project to document Islamic manuscripts around the world. Al Al-Bait has already begun communications with local cultural establishments in this regard.

Jordanian Dr Malek Eld Joweld nuclear medicine specialist at Harvard University Hospital participated in the International Conference for Nuclear Medicine which will be held in Washington D.C. between 19 and 22 June. Dr Joweld presented three working papers to the conference.

Mr Nasir Attallah, director-general of the Ministry of Tourism, met Saturday a delegation representing Spanish newspapers, radio and television. Mr Attallah reviewed tourism programmes Jordan offers to European tourists, mainly religious, cultural and health tourism. The delegation was in Jordan as part of the country's efforts to publicize Jordan's tourism potential. Increase in tourist groups last year was estimated at 28 per cent more than the previous year while in the first quarter of this year an increase of 78.5 per cent was recorded.

HRH Princess Haya bint Al Hussein, honorary president of the Queen Alia Foundation, distributed 35 hearing aid equip-

## Agenda

### Films

The American Center presents the feature film "The Maltese Falcon", starring Humphrey Bogart, Thursday 21 June at 7:00 pm. On Sunday 24 June the Center presents "Chinatown", starring Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway, at 7:00 pm.

The British Council presents the feature film "Blooming Youth", Wednesday 27 June at 6:00 pm.

The Goethe Institute presents the film "Fruehlingssinfonie", starring Nastassja Kinski, Saturday 23 June at 8:00 pm.

The French Cultural Centre presents the film "La Femme de Ma Vie", starring Christophe Malavoy, Monday 25 June at 8:00 pm.

The Spanish Cultural Centre presents the feature film "Sifco", starring Fernando Fernan Gomez and Agustin Gonzalez, Thursday 21 June at 4:30 pm. Also on Monday 25 June the Centre presents "El Tunnel", starring Jane Seymour and Peter Weller, at 10:30 am.

### Lectures

Mr William Kuntz will lecture on "Considerations in managing a small public accounting practice", Tuesday 26 June, 6:30 pm, at the lecture hall of the Jordan Electricity Authority.

Architect Bilal Hammad will lecture on "Impressions about architecture in Jordan and Palestine", Tuesday 26 June at 7 pm, at the Goethe Institute.

### Trips

Friends of Archaeology will organise a field trip to Tell Nimrin, departure on Friday 22 June at 8:30 am from Amra Hotel.

### Exhibitions

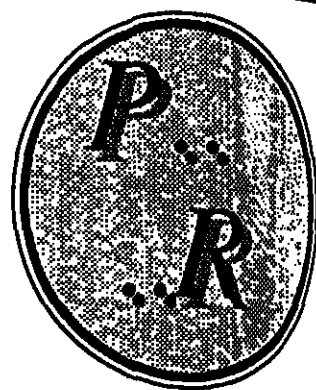
An exhibition on "Textiles from Ottoman Times" continues at Abdel Hamid Shoman Foundation until 30 June.

The works of two German Orientalist artists is on show at the Goethe Institute. Until Sunday 24 June.

### Concerts

Magic Mushroom and the Mechanics rock and roll band will perform at the French Cultural Centre on Thursday 21 June at 7:30 pm.

Under the patronage of Sharif Zaid Ben Shaker the Jordan Alumni Society Graduates of US Universities and Institutions held a reception Wednesday at Plaza Hotel on the occasion of the official opening of the society. In Jordan, Mr Marwan Al Qasbi, president of the society, Dr Abdullah Nasour, vice president, Dr Hashem Al Mughrabi, general secretary, Mr Nasir Hana Nasser, treasurer, and other society members and guests attended. The society was established in 1989.



### What's on at the Plaza

Friday - Family luncheon buffet at the Coffee Shop.

Saturday - Prime rib of beef night - Coffee Shop.

Sunday - Jumbo shrimp night at Andalusia.

Monday - Spanish Paella night at the Coffee Shop.

Tuesday - Continental Buffet - selection of continental dishes (hot & cold).

Wednesday - Indian Night at Coffee Shop.

Thursday - Sea Food night at Andalusia.

## KAL commits to 23 additional Boeing

KOREAN AIR announced on 11 June commitments for 23 Boeing 747-400s with a total value of \$4.8 billion including spares and training (in delivery-year dollars). It is one of the largest single orders ever placed with the Seattle-based manufacturer.

The announcement was made during a Korean government trade mission to the US capital. The visit came just one year after KAL received its first 747-400 on 13 June, 1989. The carrier previously has ordered nine of the high-capacity superjets and to date has taken delivery of three.

Korean Air Senior Executive Vice President Y.H. Cho noted that the airline now has committed to 48 Boeing 747s since its initial purchase in 1970. Of these, 32 are 400s, making the carrier the second largest customer for that series. Cho added that the 747-400 series has proven to be highly reliable, and is popular with flight crews and passengers alike. "The advanced technology built into this new airliner makes it ideal for the Pacific routes over which we operate," Cho said.

At the ceremony, Boeing Chairman Frank Shrontz noted that Boeing and KAL have enjoyed a long relationship going back 20 years, to the first 747 ordered by the carrier.

ment to patients in the governorate of Ma'an on Saturday. A medical team from the foundation had earlier examined 86 cases in the governorate in co-operation with Princess Basma Social Services Centre. Mrs Hannan Toukan, president of the foundation, praised the governorate's citizens for their co-operation. She said the foundation will follow up those who received the hearing aid equipment by training them. She said the foundation will continue to offer free of charge services to all needy people in the Kingdom.

21 JUNE 1990

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## Programmes of Jordan Television from 23 June to 29 June

### ENGLISH PROGRAMME

#### SATURDAY

8:30 - Empty Nest: When Barbara disguised herself as a high school student, little did she know that she was going to fall in love and have a hard time loving too.

9:00 - Encounter: hosted by Rami Khouri.

9:30 - Classical Music.

9:45 - News in English.

10:00 - World Cup (live)

11:45 - Allo... Allo: Finally the Germans manage to obtain some valuable information on the British pilots but the descriptions fit everybody in the vicinity... now you can imagine the confusion.

SUNDAY

8:30 - Hey Day (comedy)

9:00 - Global Report (documentary)

9:45 - News in English.

10:00 - World Cup (live)

MONDAY

8:30 - Perfect Strangers: Balki wants to document his daily life on celluloid and send the film to his mom. Larry brings in two actresses to enliven the show and this puts Balki off.

9:00 - Blue Blood: A few murders have happened of late in the city, and there was one murder at the countess palace... Henry and Lisa were able to unlock the mystery surrounding the murders.

9:45 - News in English.

10:00 - World Cup (live)

TUESDAY

8:30 - Charles in Charge (comedy): Chaos rules the house when the children decide to abide by no rules, and even ask Charles not to interfere... but soon wake up to the reality that life without order is no life at all.

9:10 - A Horseman Riding By: Cautledge had been gone for 3 months now, his wife "Claire" all the while has been good to everyone in his absence and handled herself wisely.

9:45 - News in English.

10:00 - World Cup (live).

WEDNESDAY

8:30 - The Golden Girls: Dorothy's daughter has a fight with her husband... there's Dorothy's chance to fill her time with some story, but husband and wife make amends and Dorothy is disappointed.

9:00 - The Nuclear Age: In this episode we get to know about Richard Nixon's attempts to end the Vietnam war, and to limit the arms race between the Soviet Union, eventually leading to the signing of SALT II treaty.

9:45 - News in English.

10:00 - Stardivari: This is the story of the famous violin maker, Antonio Stardivari.

From the beginning he was determined to make his own violin.

THURSDAY

8:30 - A Different World: Denise's science grades are low so she rings up her brother "Theo" for help. Theo arrives alright, but spends his time doing other things.

9:10 - Dolphin Cove: Scott is back to participate in his son's birthday party, his Vietnamese experiences have affected his manners... and Kale displays an uncanny sense of understanding the Dolphins.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Movie of The Week: (Virtuoso): This is the life story of the world-class British pianist John Ogdon. Diagnosed as Schizophrenic, having attempted suicide and the murder of his. The love of his wife and friends saved his talent.

FRIDAY

8:30 - Didi's comedy show: A bunch of gangsters are after Didi and his friend because they have possession of the diamonds... Didi disguises several times differently in an attempt to reach the police.

9:10 - Beauty and the Beast: Diana and Vincent discover that a vendetta is motivating a killer to kill regularly the underground people... and Father himself almost gets killed. In the end the killer commits suicide.

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Quincy (To Clear the Air): Pollution in the neighbourhood is caused by a chemical plant and death among heart patients increased... to combat the evils of pollution is a job Quincy.



The World Cup matches (see showing times)

instrument to ensure quality... no one noticed his genius until the King of Spain needed his work.

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## 'Total Recall'

RATING:★★★ and a half.

THERE MAY be people who overlook the Arnold Schwarzenegger performance in "Total Recall" — who think he isn't really acting. But the performance is one of the reasons the movie works so well. He isn't a superhero this time, although he fights like one. He's a confused and frightened innocent, a man betrayed by the structure of reality itself. And in his vulnerability, he opens the way for "Total Recall" to be more than simply an action, violence and special effects extravaganza.

There is a lot of action and violence in the movie, and almost every shot seems to embody some sort of special effect. This is one of the most complex and visually interesting science fiction movies in a long time. But the plot, based on a story by the great sci-fi writer Philip K. Dick, centres on an intriguing idea: What would happen if you could be supplied with memories? If your entire "past," right up until this moment, could be plugged into your brain, replacing the experiences you had really lived through?

That's what seems to happen to Quaid, the Schwarzenegger character in "Total Recall," although at times neither he nor we can be quite sure. We meet him in a future world where he lives in a comfortable apartment with his living blond wife and goes off to work every day at a construction job. His life seems idyllic, but he keeps having these dreams about Mars — dreams that finally inspire him to sign up with a strange kind of travel agency that provides you with the memory of a vacation instead of a real one.

What they do is strap you into a machine and beam the memories into your mind, so that it seems utterly convincing to you that you've been to Mars and done some dangerous spying there and fallen in love with the brunette of your specifications (Quaid specifies she be "athletic, sleazy and demure"). Before long, sure enough, Quaid seems to be on Mars, involved in some secret-spy stuff and in the arms of his custom-ordered brunette (Rachel Ticotin).

But is this a packaged memory or a real experience? The movie toys tantalizingly with the possibilities, especially in a scene where a convincing doctor and Quaid's own wife (Sharon Stone) "appear" in his dream to try to talk him down from it. Meanwhile, the plot — dream or not — unfolds. Mars is in the midst of a revolutionary war between the forces of Cohaagen, a mercenary captain of industry (Ronny Cox), and a small band of rebels. There is a mystery involving a gigantic reactor that was apparently built by aliens a million years ago and has been uncovered during mining operations. And can the brunette trust Quaid — even though he doesn't remember that they were once lovers?

"Total Recall" moves back and forth between various versions and levels of reality, while at the same time filling its screen with a future world rich with details. The red planet Mars is created in glorious visual splendour, and the inside of the Mars station looks like a cross between Times Square and a submarine. Strange creatures pop up, including mutants, weird three-breasted strippers and a team of hit men led by Richter (Michael Ironside), Cohaagen's most vicious lieutenant.

The movie is wall-to-wall with violence, much of it augmented by special effects. Even in this future world, people haven't been able to improve on the machine gun as a weapon of murder, even though you'd imagine that firearms of all kinds would be outlawed inside an airtight dome. There are indeed several sequences in which characters are sucked outside when the air seal is broken, but that doesn't stop the movie's villains from demonstrating the one inevitable fact of movie marksmanship: Bad guys never hit their target, and good guys never miss.

Not that it makes the slightest difference, but the science in this movie is laughable throughout. Much is made, for example, of a scene where characters find themselves outside on Mars and immediately begin to expand, their eyes popping and their faces swelling. As Arthur C. Clarke has written in an essay about his "2001," a man would not explode even in the total vacuum of deep space. (What's even more unlikely is that after the alien reactors are started and quickly provide Mars with an atmosphere, the endangered characters are spared from explosion.)

Such quibbles — and pages could be filled with them — are largely irrelevant to "Total Recall," which is a marriage between swashbuckling space opera and the ideas of the original Philip K. Dick story. The movie was directed by Paul Verhoeven, whose credits range from "The Fourth Man" to "Robocop," and he is skilled at creating sympathy for characters even within the overwhelming hardware of a story like this. That's where Schwarzenegger is such a help. He could have stalked and glowered through this movie and become a figure of fun, but instead, by allowing himself to seem confused and vulnerable, he provides a sympathetic centre for all the high-tech spectacle.

الجمهورية العربية السورية



## US Sports Round Up

## SPORTS FROM THE PRESSBOX

By Lee Lerner

The 1990 baseball season has been good to Pennsylvania.

In Philadelphia, Lenny Dykstra tinkered around the .400 mark and got himself a shot on the cover of sports' most popular weekly. All the while, the Phillies have been holding their own in the NL East. But the real news in that division has been the startling play of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who are conjuring up memories of the city's championship teams of the '60s and '70s.

The strange thing about it, though, is that the Bucs really weren't supposed to be one of the teams to beat this year. After all, the Pirates were not the defending division champions, and they didn't go out and get themselves a Frank Viola.

What the Pirates did get is healthy. They have managed to stay relatively injury-free, something they had a great deal of trouble doing last season, when they lost almost 600 player-games to the injury bug.

Also helping their cause has been the pitching of Neal Henton and Doug Drabek. Henton won eight of first nine starts, while Drabek had won seven games by the start of June.

Pirates outfielder R.J. Reynolds says the club has the right attitude to win a lot of games.

"The biggest thing to me is this

team has winning desire," Reynolds said. "We just don't think we're a good team, we know we're a good team."

For the most part, Manager Jim Leyland concurs.

"I know this is the best club I've had since I've been here," Leyland said.

Now what remains to be seen is if the Pirates' best will be good enough in the NL East this year.

## SPORTSLINE

By Dale Dunlap

The tournament begins. In tennis, there really is only one tournament: Wimbledon. What we see the next fortnight will be woven into the historic tapestry that is the All-England Club in Wimbledon, England.

The other grand slam events try hard to catch up to the prestige of "The Lawn Tennis Championships" but fall short. Even without Chris Evert this year, the storylines for the participants still appear strong.

Will Steffi Graf shake off the allergy that hampered her play in the French Open? Can young Monica Seles harness the talent to mount the challenge to Graf that Gabriela Sabatini has been unable to do? And how far will teen sensation Jennifer Capriati go on the English stage now that she has proven herself at the French?

On the men's side, there are even more questions. Ivan Lendl still hasn't won here. He's tried everything, including skipping it,

## Sports facts

## Top-paying baseball teams

Teams with highest average salaries in each major league division:

**AL West**  
Kansas City Royals \$821,000

**NL East**  
New York Mets \$782,000

**AL East**  
Boston Red Sox \$738,000

**NL West**  
L.A. Dodgers \$689,000

SOURCE: Philadelphia Inquirer

to no avail—losing in 1986 to Boris Becker and in 1987 to Pat Cash in the finals. There seems to be no excuse for him to lose again. But in England, his play looks as if he's in a London fog.

Then there is Swede Stefan Edberg, who is 1-1 against Boris Becker in the last two finals. After being swept in straight sets last year, Edberg is determined to regain the title he won from a stunned Becker in 1988. His play has shown steady improvement of late.

But Becker remains the favorite. Grass is his surface, and after appearing in four of the past five finals, he has his sights on his fourth Wimbledon plate. No matter how distracting the British press has been to him, "Boom-Boom" has stayed focused on Centre Court.

And if Graf wins the women's title for the third straight year, it could be another West German double. More history for a halcyon sports treasure.

## TOP POP SINGLES

1. Hold On, Wilson Phillips, SBK
2. It Must Have Been Love, Roxette, EMI
3. Step By Step, New Kids on the Block, Columbia
4. Vogue, Madonna, Warner Bros.
5. Poison, Bell Biv DeVoe, MCA
6. Sending All My Love, Limer, Atlantic
7. All I Wanna Do Is Make Love to You, Heart, Capitol
8. U Can't Touch This, M.C. Hammer, Capitol
9. Ain't No Way, Janet Jackson, A&M
10. Nothing Compares 2 U, Sinéad O'Connor, Ensign

## TOP POP ALBUMS

1. Brigade, Heart, Capitol
2. Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em, M.C. Hammer, Capitol
3. Poison, Bell Biv DeVoe, MCA
4. I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got, Sinéad O'Connor, Ensign
5. Pretty Woman, Soundtrack, EMI
6. Violator, Depeche Mode, Sire
7. Soul Provider, Michael Bolton, Columbia
8. Fear of a Black Planet, Public Enemy, DEF Jam
9. Janet Jackson's Rhythm Nation 1814, Janet Jackson, A&M
10. Shut Up and Dance, Paula Abdul, Virgin

## TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

1. Country Club, Travis Tritt, Warner Bros.
2. Killin' Time, Clint Black, RCA
3. Pickin' On Nashville, The Kentucky Headhunters, Mercury
4. RVS III, Ricky Van Shelton, Columbia
5. No Holdin' Back, Randy Travis, Warner Bros.
6. Here in the Real World, Alan Jackson, Arista
7. Willow in the Wind, Kathy Mattea, Mercury
8. Highwayman 2, Willie Nelson, Johnny & Kris, Columbia
9. Lone Wolf, Hank Williams Jr., Warner Bros.
10. Leave the Lights On, Lorie Morgan, RCA

## TOP VIDEO RENTALS

1. Sea of Love, Al Pacino, Elio Barkin, MCA/Universal Home Video (R-1989)
2. Back to the Future Part II, Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd, MCA/Universal Home Video (PG-1989)
3. Look Who's Talking, John Travolta, Kirstie Alley, RCA/Columbia Home Video (PG-13-1989)
4. The Little Mermaid, Animated, Walt Disney Home Video (G-1989)
5. Dead Poets Society, Robin Williams, Touchstone Home Video (PG-1989)
6. Sex, Lies, and Videotape, James Spader, Andie MacDowell, RCA/Columbia Home Video (R-1989)
7. Black Rain, Michael Douglas, Andy Garcia, Paramount Home Video (R-1989)
8. The Abyss, Ed Harris, Mary McCormack, CBS-Fox Video (PG-13-1989)
9. Honey, I Shrunk the Kids, Rick Moranis, Walt Disney Home Video (PG-1989)
10. Field of Dreams, Kevin Costner, Amy Madigan, MCA Home Video (PG-1989)

Leaving?  
Partying?  
Celebrating?  
Drop us a line...today!  
People, P.O. Box 9313,  
Amman-Jordan.

21 JUNE 1990

## Crossword Puzzle

## ACROSS

- 1 Actress Prentiss
- 6 Hemingway's sobriquet
- 10 G-men
- 14 Hair styles
- 15 Novelist Kingsley
- 16 Soviet stream
- 17 Sitcom add-on
- 18 Supreme Court number
- 20 Gaelic
- 21 Speed
- 22 Want
- 23 Things with springs
- 24 Route
- 26 Enchantress
- 30 Sippy one
- 32 Metal beam
- 35 Negatively charged atoms
- 37 Ambassador or envoy
- 40 Letters to stars
- 42 Twist 12 and 20
- 43 Surrounded
- 45 Surpassing
- 46 Suffu with inchoative verbs
- 47 Period
- 49 Willow
- 50 Soviet div
- 52 Press
- 54 Tear
- 57 Goller Palmer
- 59 In the center
- 63 Jewish month
- 64 Card-game phrase
- 66 "La Bohème" heroine
- 67 First victim
- 68 Dance of Bohemian origin
- 69 Kind of mother or son
- 70 Word on a towel
- 71 Appease

## DOWN

- 1 Wan
- 2 Way off
- 3 Wild or
- 4 Theater section
- 5 Wood for skis
- 6 I Love a
- 7 1931 song
- 8 Early inhabitant of Britain
- 9 Army
- 10 These often get tickled
- 11 City in the
- 12 Hamlet, e.g.
- 13 Snow vehicle
- 14 Best of Carson
- 23 Former name of Varanasi, India
- 25 Wing part
- 26 Bisro
- 27 Silly
- 28 Collar woe?
- 29 "Peanuts," e.g.
- 31 Kindled
- 33 Strad competitor
- 34 E Indian cereal grass
- 36 Caesar from Yonkers
- 38 Vim
- 39 Haw before 1959
- 41 Novelist Harper
- 44 A.A. candidate
- 46 Gazelles of Arabia
- 51 Rani's spouse
- 53 Finished, to heal
- 54 Bellwether
- 55 Redact
- 56 Apartment
- 58 Gown
- 59 G.I. Ironi
- 60 Factory
- 61 Actress-writer Chase
- 62 June 6, 1944
- 65 Baden-Baden is one

## Solution

PAULA PAPA FEDS  
AFROS AMIS URAL  
LAUGHTRACK NINE  
ERSE HASTE NEED  
BEDS WAY  
CIRCE EEL IBAR  
ANIONS DIPLOMAT  
FANMAIL TEENAGE  
ENGIRDED PRETER  
ESCE ERA OSIER  
SSR IRON  
RENT ARNIE AMID  
ADAR JOKERSWILD  
MIMI ABEL POLKA  
STEP HERS ALLAY

# Jordan Bridge

By Ghassan Ghanem

## Careful ones will make it

IN SOME of our articles we discussed - among other things - the play of some suit combinations.

It is a very important subject which should be the concern of every competitive player. I am not pushing the subject, it keeps on coming up during the Jordan Bridge Association (JBA) weekly duplicates.

This hand came up two weeks ago and was misplayed by one of our very good players (VGP)

(WEST)  
♠AQ  
♥876  
♦J4  
♣AKQ93

Our VGP bid all the way up to 6♠ reaching to a moderate slam (76% without a heart lead but as little as 28% if the heart was led). How do you play this diamond combination after the spade lead?

The bidding of the hand is another interesting aspect. The simplest and most straight forward sequence is 1N - 3N. But this sequence may risk missing a slam if West hold an appropriate hand that fits with East's hand.

A better sequence is 1N-2N-3D-3N where 2N is transfer to 3D and 3N is a semi balanced hand.

After this sequence if West's hand is something like:

♠A8 ♥K87 ♦K84 ♣AK972 or even a little bit less, West will try the slam and reach to 6♠ or even 7♠.

But as the case is regarding the actual West's hand, he will pass fearlessly.

Back to the diamond combination, how did you play it?

The VGP played the ♠J from hand, covered with the ♠Q and ♠A, but he had to lose two diamonds.

tricks to the ♠K and ♠8 since the ♠Q was singleton with the North player at his left, and he went down one.

If we isolate the diamond combination, then it would not make any difference what diamond you play from your hand in almost all cases but if the ♠K or ♠Q were singleton with North then playing the small diamond not the ♠J is the correct play.

Practically there is no distribution where starting with the ♠J could be correct.

The full hand was:

♠9753  
♥J432  
♦Q  
♣10754  
♠K64  
♥A5  
♦A109753  
♣82  
♠AQ2  
♥876  
♦J4  
♣AQ93  
N  
W  
E  
S  
♠J108  
♥KQ109  
♦K862  
♣J6

After he went one down, the VGP face was as red as the ♠J face, but for his credit, he was the first to admit his "Unforgivable laziness" as he described it later.

The hand was brought to my attention by an ambitious young lady AYI, who played the hand in 3N, escaped the heart lead and played a small diamond towards dummy to make twelve tricks.

Both the VGP and the AYI names shall be kept anonymous, each for different reasons.

## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

By Joyce Jillson

Weekly Tip: A week of fantastic beginnings. Calm descends upon tense situations. Many wooers could get the courage to ask for a first date.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Many opportunities, activities as this week flies by. Family's coming for weekend. Taurus (April 20-May 20) You've got travelin' on your mind. But pleasure trips need financial planning. Gemini (May 21-June 21) Personal new moon week is opportunity plus.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Continue to research those good ideas. Great camaraderie restores perspective. Partner comes up with great ideas for fun.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Social commitments will dominate. The boss is ready for your innovative suggestions. Dress right all week.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Week full of meetings, parties, plans. News from long distance. Legal matter is settled.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Romance blooms, so dress for success. Funding is available for special needs at home.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Attitude has much to do with health. Partners are important all week: Let spouse or partner air their views.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Young people inspire you. Study ways to improve quality of life with proper nutrition.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) First part of week give family as much time as possible. Complete projects that are close to your heart.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Pressure is easing at work. You're expanding circle of friends and business contacts.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) You're sensitive about money. Wait to make real decisions or balance checkbook.

If You Were Born This Week

Time to put old emotional aches and pains behind you. June sees project go forward. Finances will improve in July. Chance to reconcile with family in August.

## MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions - horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Circle it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

SUMMER VACATION (Sol.: 8 letters)  
A-Airplane, August, Away; B-Baggage, Bicycles; C-Cruise; D-Dancing, Dine, Drive; F-Family; Fishing; G-Games, Golf; H-Historical, Hotel; Humid; L-Lake; M-Meat, Money, Motel; N-Nice; O-Ocean; P-Pack, Photos, Pleasant, Pool; Q-Quiet; R-Reservation, Resort; S-Shore, Shorts, South, Suitcase, Sunny, Swimming; T-Tennis, Tickets, Together, Tourist, Travel, Tropical; W-Wild

This Week's Answer: POSTCARD

S E L C Y C I B A G G A G E C  
E L A C I P O R T R A V E L E  
M S H O R T S O A D M S Y S C  
A T S U G U A D I P O O L U I  
G O L F T S I N N E T U I N  
A Y E N O M E S P T E T M T O  
I N T Q U I E T E A L H A C I  
R N O H R N A E C O C D F A T  
P U H W I P H O T O S K I S A  
L S H I S T O R I C A L S E V  
A A R L T O G E T H E R H E R  
N P K D T N A S A E L P I V E  
E S T E K C I T Y A W A N I S  
T R O S E R D A N C I N G R E  
G N I M M I W S H O R E S D R

THE STAR 21



## Diplomatic Corps

Algerian	641271/2
Arab Republic of Yemen	642381
Australian	637246/7
Austrian Embassy	674750
Bahrain	664148
Belgian	675683
Canadian	666124
Chilean	661336
Cyprus Honorary Cons.	642653
Czechoslovakian	665105
Danish Consulate Gen.	622324
Finnish Consulate	623443
French	641273/4
German	6689351
German D.R.	819351/2
Greek	672331
Hungarian	674916
Indian	637262
Iraqi	639331
Italian	638185
Consulate Gen. Ireland	630878
Japanese	672486/7
Yugoslavian	665107
Kuwaiti	675135/8
Libyan	666118
Lebanese	641381
Moroccan	641451
Netherlands	637967/625165
Indonesian	828911
North Korean	666349
Norwegian Consulate	637164
Pakistani	622787
People's Rep. of China	666139
Philippines	645161
Polish	637153
Qatar	644331/2
Romanian	667738
Saudi Arabian	814154
South Korean	660745/6
Spanish	622140
Sudanese	641251/2
Swedish	669177/9
Swiss	686416/7
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Tunisian	674307/8
Turkish	641251
United Arab Emirates	643369
United Kingdom	823100
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Delegation of the EEC	668191
UNDP	668171/7
UNRWA	669194/8
Far East Com. off. (Taiwan)	671530
UNICEF	629571
Con. of Sri Lanka	645312

## Airlines

Arab Air Cargo	674191/95
Aeroflot	641510
Air France	666055/667824
Air India	675888/9
Air Lanka	655377/651799
Allitalia	625203
American Airlines	669068
Arab Wings	894484
Austrian Airlines	637380/667028
Balkan Airlines	665909
British Airways	641430
China Airlines	637380
Cathay Pacific	667028
Cyprus Airways	630011
Egypt Air	630011
Emirates Airlines	662141/678321
Gulf Air	653606/656616
Hungarian Airlines	639295
Iberia	637827/644036
Iraqi Airways	628596/628598
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Libyan Arab Airlines	643831/2
Lufthansa	601744
Malaysian Airlines	639575/633446
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Swiss Air	629831
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TARCOM - Romanian	637380
Thai Airways	604649
Trans World Airline	623430
Turkish Airlines	659102
Yugoslavia Airways	628175
Yugoslav Airlines	604911

Queen Alia Airport (08)53200

## Diary

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Royal Cultural Centre	661026/7
American Centre Library	641520
British Council	636147/8
French Cultural Centre	637009
Goethe Institute	641993
Soviet Cultural Centre	644203
Spanish Cultural Centre	624049
Turkish Cultural Centre	639777
Haya Arts Centre	665195
Husseini Youth City	667181/5
Y.W.C.A.	641793
Y.W.M.A.	664251
Amman Mun. Library	637111
Univ. of Jordan Library	834555

## Cinemas

Concord	677420
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Opera	675573
Plaza	674111
Philadelphia	634144
Nijom	675571

## Sports Clubs

Al Hussein Sports City	667181
Orthodox Club	810491
Royal Automobile Club	815410
Royal Shooting Club	736572
Royal Chess Club	673713

## Rent

Shakhsish	668958
Al-Jabal	606669
Kada	665161/665153
Al-Lahadi	813554
National	639197/8
Neha	816792
Petra	605501
Rabbit Amman	672424
Al-Rimal	639861
Al-Samer	771707
Satelite	625767/621471
Star	604904
Tiger	671931
Trust	673312
Al-Waha	674105
Abu Degge	644642/644906
Amin Jarrar (Avis)	670498
Amman	666327
Arabian	641350
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Budget	604230
Deas	669970
Dirani	660601
Europcar	601350/80
General Services	674100
Gulf	664902

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Crown	798181
Philadelphia	663100
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Middle East	667150
Grand Palace	661121
Tyche	661114
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Amra	813071
Plaza	674111

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Amman Civil Defence	198, 199
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Blood Bank	775121
Civil Defence rescue	630341
Police rescue	621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	896390
Electric Power Co.	636381/4
Water complaints	897467
Queen Alia Airport	(08) 53200
RJ Flight Info.	(08) 53200

## Hospitals

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Khalidi Maternity	644281/6
Aldeh Maternity	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mallat, J. Amman	636141
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Muesher Hospital	667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	666164/6
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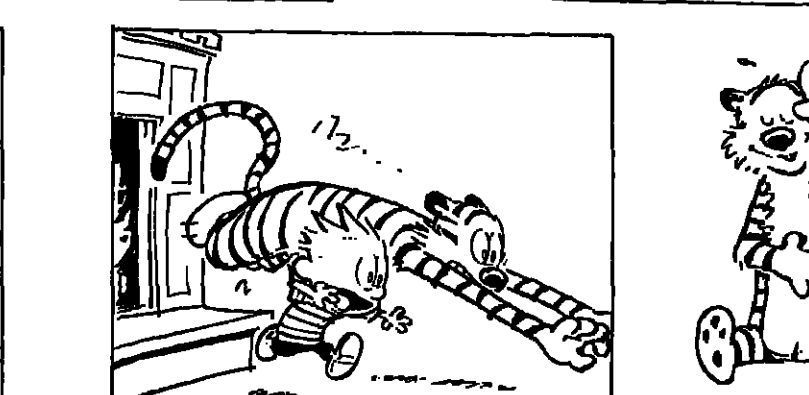
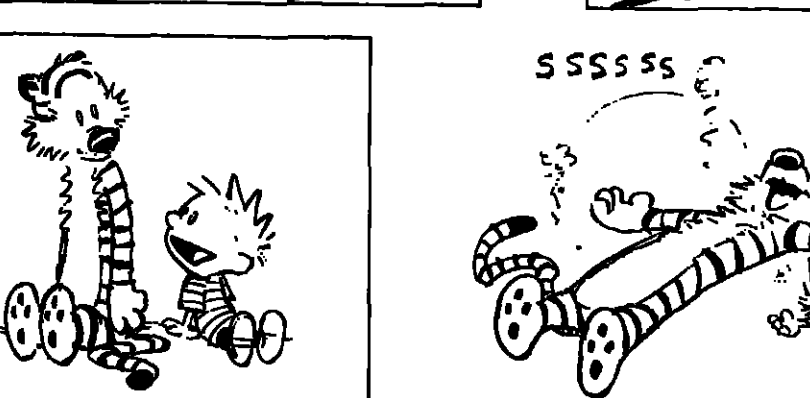
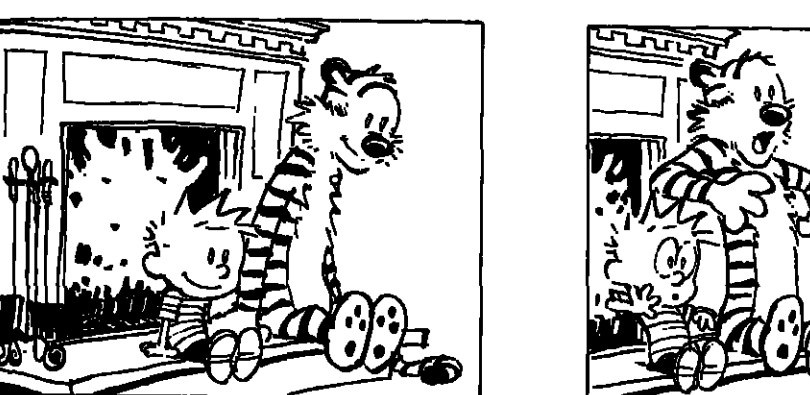
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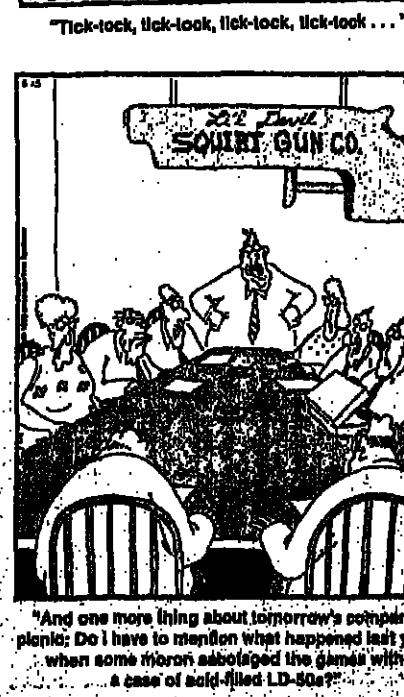
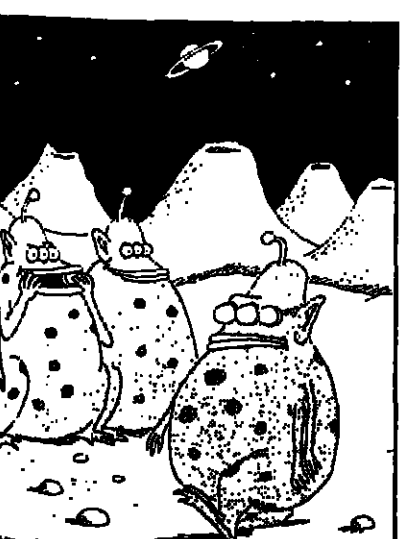
## COMICS

### Calvin and Hobbes



### The Far Side

By GARY LARSON



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